

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
13th Legislative Day
Monday, April 11, 2022

The House met according to adjournment and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer by Reverend Dr. Malcolm Himschoot, Church of Universal Fellowship, Orono.

National Anthem by Elizabeth Porter, Richmond.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The Journal of Thursday, April 7, 2022 was read and approved.

SENATE PAPERS

Non-Concurrent Matter

An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Working Group

(S.P. 742) (L.D. 2032)

PASSED TO BE ENACTED in the House on March 29, 2022.

Came from the Senate with the Bill and accompanying papers **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

The House voted to **RECEDE AND CONCUR**.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act To Require Telecommunications Companies To Divulge Location Information to Law Enforcement When Necessary To Respond to a 9-1-1 Call or Locate a Person in Danger"

(S.P. 492) (L.D. 1581)

Majority (8) **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report of the Committee on **JUDICIARY READ** and **ACCEPTED** in the House on April 5, 2022.

Came from the Senate with that Body having **INSISTED** on its former action whereby the Minority (5) **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-443) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-482)** thereto in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford moved that the House **INSIST**.

Representative DILLINGHAM of Oxford moved that the House **RECEDE AND CONCUR**.

Representative DUNPHY of Old Town **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **RECEDE AND CONCUR**

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is to Recede and Concur. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 536

YEA - Arata, Babbidge, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Bryant, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Corey, Dillingham, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Foster, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Hutchins, Javner, Landry, Lemelin, Lyman, Mason, Millett, Moriarty, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Theriault, Thorne, Tuell, Underwood, Wadsworth.

NAY - Alley, Andrews, Arford, Austin, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Brooks, Caiazzo, Cloutier, Connor, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, LaRochelle, Libby, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Pebworth, Perry, Pierce, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Tepler, Terry, Tucker, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

ABSENT - Bernard, Cardone, Collings, Costain, Dolloff, Evans, Faulkingham, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Kinney, Lookner, Lyford, Martin, McDonald, Paulhus, Perry, Pluecker, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley, White.

Yes, 52; No, 73; Absent, 22; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

52 having voted in the affirmative and 73 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 22 being absent, and accordingly the motion to **RECEDE AND CONCUR FAILED**.

Representative DILLINGHAM of Oxford **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **INSIST**.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is to Insist. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 537

YEA - Alley, Andrews, Arford, Babbidge, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cloutier, Collings, Connor, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Kessler, LaRochelle, Libby, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, Nadeau, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Pebworth, Perry, Pierce, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Tepler, Terry, Tucker, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Arata, Austin, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Corey, Dillingham, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Foster, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Hepler, Hutchins, Hymanson, Javner, Landry, Lemelin, Lyman, Mason, Millett, Moriarty, Morris, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Theriault, Thorne, Tuell, Underwood, Wadsworth.

ABSENT - Bernard, Cardone, Costain, Dolloff, Faulkingham, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Kinney, Lookner, Lyford, Martin, Paulhus, Perry, Pluecker, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley, White.

Yes, 76; No, 52; Absent, 19; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

76 having voted in the affirmative and 52 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 19 being absent, and accordingly the House voted to **INSIST**.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

Representative ALLEY of Beals assumed the Chair.

The House was called to order by the Speaker Pro Tem.

The SPEAKER: The Chair wishes to thank the Representative from Beals, Representative Alley for his service as Speaker Pro Tem and his four terms of service to the people of the State of Maine.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.
The House was called to order by the Speaker.

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

In accordance with House Rule 519 and Joint Rule 213, the following items:

Recognizing:

the Southern Maine Community College Men's Basketball Team, of South Portland, which won the United States Collegiate Athletic Association Division II National Championship, the college's first team national championship in its 76-year history. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(SLS 927)

On **OBJECTION** of Representative DUNPHY of Old Town, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar. **READ** and **PASSED** in concurrence.

Recognizing:

Steve Willis, of Gorham, on his retirement as Professor of Fire Science and Department Chair of the Southern Maine Community College Fire Science Program after 36 years of service. Among his many professional activities at the national, state and local levels and his other roles at the college, Mr. Willis served as the Fire Science Program's Public Safety Student Live-In Program Coordinator and, from 1986 to 2005, as the Maine Fire Training and Education Deputy and State Fire Administrator and, from 2005 to 2008, as the Director of Public Safety Education and Leadership Initiatives. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 740)

Presented by Representative BOYLE of Gorham.
Cosponsored by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland, Representative TERRY of Gorham.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative BOYLE of Gorham, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

On motion of the same Representative, **TABLED** pending **PASSAGE** and later today assigned.

Recognizing:

the T.W. Kelly Dirigo Middle School Wrestling Team, of Dixfield, which won the Pine Tree League Championship. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 751)

Presented by Representative PICKETT of Dixfield.
Cosponsored by Senator KEIM of Oxford.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative PICKETT of Dixfield, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

On motion of the same Representative, **TABLED** pending **PASSAGE** and later today assigned.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

Under suspension of the rules, members were allowed to remove their jackets.

The following items were taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The following matters, in the consideration of which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment, Thursday, April 7, 2022 had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

Expression of Legislative Sentiment Recognizing the Long Reach Swim Club, of the Bath Area Family YMCA

(HLS 663)

TABLED - March 22, 2022 (Till Later Today) by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich.

PENDING - PASSAGE.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Woolwich, Representative Hepler.

Representative **HEPLER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. The Bath YMCA Swim Club almost came to this building two years ago to celebrate its 29th consecutive State championship, but we know what happened then. So, I'm delighted to welcome them here, fortunately, after two more consecutive championships. This swim team, the Long Reach Swim Club, named for the long reach that characterizes the downtown Bath section of the Kennebec River and, I might add, also the same section of the Kennebec River that fronts Woolwich shoreline and the practices and meets that go along with it are very much community events because members, all 150 of them, range in age from seven to 18, these are often all-day affairs and rely on lots of timers and referees and snack makers and cheerleaders. What makes this team special to all of us in the community is the comradery we see. As their coach, Jay Morissette, says; I learned early on that it's got to be fun. And he focuses more on the motivational and mental aspects of coaching and less on the scientific side. He believes that the fun part and the team atmosphere in their early years eventually hooks kids and they eventually get to the competitiveness of the sport. Long Reach's high retention rate is definitely part of the team's success, but so is hard work. Because, yes, there is the winning part, it is an impressive record. And as a swimmer at the Bath Y, I see the visual evidence of the banners on the walls every day. I also see the team members themselves in adjacent lanes practicing on their own, self-motivated and full of energy and concentration. Finally, I want to say that the 150 members don't all come from the Bath area. This team has members from Arrowsic, Bath, Brunswick, Durham, Edgecomb, Freeport, Harpswell, Newcastle, Nobleboro, Orr's Island, Phippsburg, Pownal, Sebasco Estates, Topsham, Waldoboro and West Bath. Oh and Westport Island and Woolwich and Yarmouth. So, to my colleagues who represent these towns, this is your team too. My community is very proud of these kids and also of their coaches. Thirty-two consecutive wins in 32 years, it turns out that math isn't someone's strong point, all under the direction of the same guy, who began his career in Bath right out of college in 1985. We are grateful for his commitment to our kids and for their commitment to him. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Topsham, Representative Tepler.

Representative **TEPLER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I just want to say a big thank you to Jay Morissette and all he does for kids in our communities and I also want to say go Snail Darters.

Subsequently, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment was **PASSED** in concurrence.

Expression of Legislative Sentiment Recognizing the Oceanside High School Girls Basketball Team

(SLS 829)

- In Senate, **READ** and **PASSED**.

TABLED - March 29, 2022 (Till Later Today) by Representative **MATLACK** of St. George.

PENDING - **PASSAGE**.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from St. George, Representative Matlack.

Representative **MATLACK**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I love women's sports. I have followed my daughter halfway across this State over the time that she played sports at Georges Valley High School. So, I was really excited to learn that the Oceanside girls had won the Class B title this year in basketball; the first time ever for Oceanside, which was created by joining Georges Valley in Thomaston with Rockland District High School in Rockland a mere several years ago, maybe 10 years ago. And I'm not sure that either Rockland or Georges Valley had a State basketball champion. But these girls are quite impressive. They went 20-0 this season, they rarely trailed in any game and they are now on a run of 33-0 beginning last season. This last game, when they played against Herman, they were trailing every quarter except the last one, when they came and won 31-28. And the girls won the gold ball for the first time in school history. This is a very sweet victory for Oceanside. They have a very close-knit team, they have some fantastic players and their coach suffered a medical condition somewhere in the middle of last season and his health was precarious for a while so, for the girls to come and win this tournament was absolutely amazing. And when I found out that they had won, I texted my granddaughter, who graduated from Oceanside High School last spring and I said can you believe they won and she says yes, I can, they're beasts. So, kudos to all the girls at Oceanside High School, their coach, Matt Breen, assistant coach, Darrel Randall and Jason Skarka and the girls, Anna Kingsbury, Ahlivia Morris, Audrey Mackie, Abby Waterman, Karen Skarka, Searra Hansen, Emily Sykes, Alydia Hatch, Natalee Hitts, Caitlyn Lamb, Sophia Daggett, Aubriana Hoose, Bailey Breen and manager, Daisha Hustis. Thank you all for a great season and I look forward to next year.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Rockland, Representative Geiger.

Representative **GEIGER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, wanted to rise and offer my congratulations to the young women of Oceanside. To be champions takes talent, discipline, hard work and teamwork. The skills you are gaining will serve you well far beyond the basketball court. So, congratulations, take that talent and discipline and go forth and change the world. We need you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Kennebunk, Representative Babbidge.

Representative **BABBIDGE**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Both my parents grew up on Lake Avenue in Rockland. Every two weeks of my early life was a trip to Rockland to swim in

chickey and play on Dodge's Mountain and go up to Kayla's store, which is a big treat. But I just wanted to say that although my life has been four decades in Kennebunk and with a growing-up period in South Portland, Rockland is my family's home, my heritage and I want these young women at Oceanside to know that there are people in the four corners of the State that were wishing this wonderful Knox County team well. Thank you and congratulations.

Subsequently, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment was **PASSED** in concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-504)** on Bill "An Act To Establish a Disaster Relief Fund for Potato Farmers Adversely Affected by Drought Conditions"

(S.P. 717) (L.D. 1998)

Signed:

Senators:

DILL of Penobscot
BLACK of Franklin
MAXMIN of Lincoln

Representatives:

BERNARD of Caribou
GIFFORD of Lincoln
HALL of Wilton
LANDRY of Farmington
McCREA of Fort Fairfield
PLUECKER of Warren
SKOLFIELD of Weld
UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (S-505)** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representatives:

O'NEIL of Saco
OSHER of Orono

Came from the Senate with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-504)**.

READ.

On motion of Representative McCREA of Fort Fairfield, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (S-504)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-504)** in concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-484)** on Bill "An Act To Transition State and Local Motor Vehicle Fleets to 100 Percent Zero-emission Vehicles"

(S.P. 456) (L.D. 1579)

Signed:

Senators:

LAWRENCE of York
VITELLI of Sagadahoc

Representatives:

BERRY of Bowdoinham
CUDDY of Winterport
GROHOSKI of Ellsworth
KESSLER of South Portland
SACHS of Freeport
ZEIGLER of Montville

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Senator:

STEWART of Aroostook

Representatives:

FOSTER of Dexter
WADSWORTH of Hiram

Came from the Senate with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-484)**.

READ.

Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

Representative WADSWORTH of Hiram **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Hiram, Representative Wadsworth.

Representative **WADSWORTH**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise in opposition to the pending motion. EVs and hybrids are becoming more mainstream and that's not where I find fault with this bill. To me, it's forcing the taxpayer to buy these vehicles in such large and aggressive numbers. We know EVs and hybrids cost more than your standard vehicle. This fiscal note is insufficient in describing the cost to be borne by the State over the next few years. Mr. Speaker, we know the cost of inflation on Maine families and it's approximately 5200 per year. Forcing these costs on the Maine taxpayer only further hurts them more.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Dexter, Representative Foster.

Representative **FOSTER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. You've all heard the term putting the cart before the horse and, to me, this bill clearly does so. Let me read the summary of this bill. This bill established goals and timetables for the State, counties and municipalities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from light-duty motor vehicles, motor vehicles used for utility services,

motor vehicles used for public transportation and motor vehicles used for public school transportation by 75% by 2035 and achieve 100%, zero emission fleets by 2040. There's the horse. Here's the cart, excuse me, the other way around; that's the cart, here's the horse. It also directs the Chief Executive's energy office to convene an interagency working group to develop a plan to achieve the transition to zero-emission fleets and sets out specific duties for that working group.

Mr. Speaker, in the first portion of the bill, which requires moving to these vehicles, there's a lot of things to consider; vehicle cost, the infrastructure cost that's going to be necessary to make this possible and especially for school bus, the extreme cost for an electric school bus and how that program will be affected. Now, in this bill, it allows for a 15-year payback period versus the now five-year period where school busses meet the State Department of Education requirements. However, that is due to the very significant cost increase of these vehicles. These costs will fall on State tax ratepayers and/or electric ratepayers. Now, the bill does state language and there is, surprisingly, no fiscal note attached to the bill because in the sections it states that if this is practicable, the entity may decide that it's not practicable and therefore, they wouldn't have to do this. However, I represent communities that would be probably more likely to find that it's not practicable to convert their fleets to electric vehicles. There will be folks that represent communities in this chamber and in the other Body who find that they represent municipalities that may find it practicable. The problem with that that I have is that all of our residents will subsidize those entities that deem it practicable through their electric rates, State taxes, etcetera, affecting the poorer rural communities even though they are not getting the advantage of having the vehicles.

Mr. Speaker, in Section 6, which I would deem is the horse, it states that there will be an entity put together that will develop a plan and its duties, along with looking at all of the infrastructure and all of the other issues with converting to an electric fleet, its duties include reviewing different types of zero emissions and very low emissions vehicles. To me, that's something that we need to do now, before we institute this plan, this bill, this Statute that would require purchasing of EVs primarily. And I will leave you with this; at the beginning of the 130th, the EUT Committee had the privilege of various commissioners and department heads coming before us on Zoom to explain where they were at, to give us an update. The chief engineer of the DOT was asked if that person would explain why they had come to the conclusion that electric vehicles for communities, large urban areas, if you will, that have a large fleet, why that they felt EVs were the only way to go and why they had ruled out, for instance, alternatives such as hydrogen vehicles, which have become popular in some of the more heavily-populated cities in the United States and around the world. When the question was asked, the answer was well, we didn't really have time to look at that, but we'll jot it down and look at it in the future. To me, sir, this bill is not necessary and if any part of it is, it would be the final section, which says that we need to plan ahead. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Buxton, Representative Blier.

Representative **BLIER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I just, I'm rising today because I do represent a community, the town of Buxton. And, just real quickly, I jotted down some notes. You know, we have about 20 vehicles that would have to be replaced underneath this bill.

And the thing to understand is that, you know, we're a conservative community where we, you know, take police cruisers and pass them down to our code enforcement officers and the like to save on resources. And so, with this bill being in place then we'd have to replace all those vehicles with electric vehicles, meaning the vehicles that we would pass down would then be thrown away or disposed of in whatever way, sold or whatever. The point is is this just to the town, the municipality, we're looking at about a \$1.4 million price tag to our community, which is about \$175,000 a year. I heard there's no fiscal note on this but this is basically an unfunded State mandate to local communities and that's just the municipality itself, we're not talking about the school with 65-70 school busses plus all the vehicles that they have. And so, this is going to be a tax burden on municipalities that I don't feel is really needed, especially where we're at with inflation. So, please follow my light and vote this Ought Not to Pass. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Penobscot, Representative Hutchins.

Representative **HUTCHINS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I'm not going to speak about the cart before the horse, but this ultimate horseless carriage that we're talking about today isn't ready for primetime yet. There's about 7,000 electric vehicles in the State of Maine and there are about a million vehicles owned in the State of Maine. Over several years, quite a few years, it got to 7,000; we'll be a century before we get to the point where electric vehicles take over the possible fuel vehicles that we have. And a little story about a woman that spoke with me recently, her daughter took a job in Boston. She only had to be there two days a week and as young folks that are just out of college wanting to be very up with the times, she bought an electric car to go the two trips to Boston a week. She couldn't make it to Boston on a charge and would have to stop and charge and sometimes at a charging place after dark and so, they decided that it wasn't safe to do it and so, she sold her electric car and bought one of these antique fuel ones that we all use and now she's safe to go back and forth to Boston twice a week. What I'm trying to say is we're not ready for this yet and especially with the cost that goes along with it. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Auburn, Representative Libby.

Representative **LIBBY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, may I pose a question to the Chair?

The SPEAKER: The Member may proceed.

Representative **LIBBY**: Given that there is no fiscal note, can you please clarify how this is not an unfunded mandate? Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Fiscal note determination comes from the office that is charged with such responsibility. It's not the responsibility of the Chair to determine fiscal notes. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bowdoinham, Representative Berry.

Representative **BERRY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker and Men and Women of the House, I proudly stand in support of this excellent legislation from my State senator. And, I do so with the hope that we can all read the bill, understand the phrase to the extent practicable, which allows the entities that are strongly encouraged, nudged, if you will, towards an energy independent climate-friendly future to take those first steps, but allows them that flexibility, that to the extent practicable they will move towards electrification of their fleets. I'm very proud that Maine has diminished it's spend on fossil fuels which do not come from the State of Maine and are

a net drain on our GDP and our economy and our pocketbooks and wallets. When I first came into this Body in 2007, we were spending six billion, that's billion with a 'B', per year on fossil fuels. Most of it was for our transportation fleet and an additional portion was to heat our homes, typically with number two heating oil. We are now down to four billion. Some of that has been the switch to natural gas, but we still are, as we've seen in the headlines and in our electric bills, very dependent on natural gas. We need to move our generation fleet towards renewables, but part of it is simply electrifying. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House, I think you all know that I'm not a big fan of our State's largest utility, but I am a captive customer of Central Maine Power and I am very proud to have increased my Central Maine Power bill recently. I did so by purchasing a used 2017 Chevy Bolt. It does zero to 60 in six and a half minutes, excuse me, six and a half seconds. I can make it accelerate more slowly as well, but six and a half seconds if my teenager is at the wheel and it's a joy to drive, knowing not only that it's more responsive, more peppy, more fun and can win in a drag race against a typical V-8 engine, but also because it is cleaner, it allows Maine energy to be the source of its power, it saves our State economy money and it saves our children and grandchildren from what may well be a not-very-livable planet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Presque Isle, Representative Underwood.

Representative **UNDERWOOD**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Why do we want to increase the cost of our municipalities' fleets with this bill? My suggestion is, if you want electricity in your vehicle, go get it, but leave everybody else alone and let the municipalities judge what they need and what they want and what they can afford. My suggestion is to vote nay on this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Buxton, Representative Blier.

Representative **BLIER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. May I pose a question to the Chair?

The SPEAKER: The Member may proceed.

Representative **BLIER**: So, as the Good Representative from Bowdoinham just mentioned, that this bill is only to the extent practical, my question is, who is going to police if it's practical or not and if it was practical and they didn't do what was practical, what will the fines be? And if there's no answer to that, then does this bill have no teeth? That's the question.

The SPEAKER: The Representative from Buxton, Representative Blier, has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who wishes to answer it. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bowdoinham, Representative Berry.

Representative **BERRY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the good tradition of local control in Maine, it is the local government, the affected government, that would ultimately decide whether that goal for them at that time was not practicable.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Carmel, Representative Thorne.

Representative **THORNE**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in opposition of this bill. I represent the lone House Republican on the Maine Climate Council and recently we had a discussion over electric vehicles and the enthusiasm about the price of electric vehicles coming down and the charging stations that are going up in Maine and so forth, and it occurred to me and I asked the question of the chair of the caucus whether or not it had been considered what the average consumption of fossil fuel gasoline was per Maine driver. And the answer to that was no, it hadn't been

determined, but for every person that buys so much gas per year, there's a tax that's paid towards the transportation funds. And, as we know, all the time we get bond issues that adds more millions of dollars to that because it's not enough. Now, for every person that converts from an electric or a gas vehicle to an electric vehicle, there is a revenue that is lost in gas tax for that. And currently the answer to my question was no, there was no set way that we would be able to make up for that lost revenue with electric vehicles. So, again, I ask that you follow my light and vote no on this pending motion. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Orono, Representative Osher.

Representative **OSHER**: Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill. The bill directs the Chief Executive's Energy Office to convene an inter-agency working group to develop a plan to achieve transition to zero emission fleets, sets out specific duties for that working group. Planning is a great idea, Mr. Speaker. Our goal of addressing the issue of climate change can only be done by incremental work and this plan is one example. And as the colleague from Bowdoinham said, this is the future we need to reduce our fossil fuel use in the State, we're already seeing the impacts of climate change across the State and this is the opportunity for us to make a plan to make the transition and I fully support this bill, I hope everyone will follow my light.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Oakland, Representative Perkins.

Representative **PERKINS**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I rise in opposition to this. In my small town, I happen to be the chairman in Oakland and it would cost us somewhere in the area of about \$28 million to buy all our school busses. The average school bus when school busses go out and buy, they're buying a school bus, a diesel school bus, for about \$98,000. That's fully loaded. Now, to buy an electric bus, it's going to cost them somewhere in the neighborhood of about \$360,000 per one bus. Per one bus. So, I believe that we would be really challenging all these small towns out here who have a hard time making ends meet already to take and force them to buy electric vehicles. An electric vehicle really isn't as clean as we're putting out to everybody. Electric vehicles have to be charged, all the battery does is carry and store the power. That's all it does; it stores the power, it doesn't regenerate power. So, we have to use fossil fuels to charge the battery, we have to get electricity from somewhere, either a dam or solar power or wind power. So, we're not doing anything but just hiding ourselves in figures or hiding ourselves in feeling good because it's all going to be green. But please, sir, follow my light. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Carmel, Representative Thorne.

Representative **THORNE**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The one problem that I failed to mention about this bill is it is a plan. The problem is the plan is incomplete. Therefore, I urge you to vote no. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 538

YEA - Arford, Babbidge, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cloutier, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Pebworth, Perry, Pierce, Pluecker, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Tepler, Terry, Tucker, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Alley, Andrews, Arata, Austin, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Carlow, Carmichael, Ceбра, Collamore, Connor, Corey, Dillingham, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Faulkingham, Foster, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Lemelin, Libby, Lyman, Martin, Mason, Millett, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Theriault, Thorne, Tuell, Underwood, Wadsworth, White.

ABSENT - Bernard, Cardone, Costain, Dolloff, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Lookner, Lyford, McDonald, Paulhus, Perry, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley.

Yes, 75; No, 57; Absent, 15; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

75 having voted in the affirmative and 57 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 15 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (S-484)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-484)** in concurrence.

Ten Members of the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** report in Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-494)** on Bill "An Act To Protect the Health and Welfare of Maine Communities and Reduce Harmful Solid Waste"

(S.P. 523) (L.D. 1639)

Signed:

Senators:

BRENNER of Cumberland
BENNETT of Oxford
CARNEY of Cumberland

Representatives:

TUCKER of Brunswick
BELL of Yarmouth
BLUME of York
BOYLE of Gorham
DOUDERA of Camden
GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach
ZEIGLER of Montville

Two Members of the same Committee report in Report "B" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (S-495)** on same Bill.

Signed:
Representatives:
HANLEY of Pittston
O'CONNOR of Berwick

Representatives:
COSTAIN of Plymouth
PICKETT of Dixfield
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

One Member of the same Committee reports in Report "C" **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:
Representative:
TUELL of East Machias

Came from the Senate with Report "A" **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-494) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "B" (S-525)** thereto.

READ.
On motion of Representative TUCKER of Brunswick, Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended** was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (S-494)** was **READ**.

Senate Amendment "B" (S-525) to **Committee Amendment "A" (S-494)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-494) as Amended by Senate Amendment "B" (S-525) thereto was **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-494) as Amended by Senate Amendment "B" (S-525)** thereto in concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-956)** on Bill "An Act To Establish That the Provision of Emergency Medical Services by an Ambulance Service Is an Essential Service and To Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission To Study Emergency Medical Services in the State" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1474) (L.D. 1988)

Signed:
Senator:
DESCHAMBAULT of York

Representatives:
WARREN of Hallowell
LOOKNER of Portland
MORALES of South Portland
NEWMAN of Belgrade
PLUECKER of Warren
RECKITT of South Portland
SHARPE of Durham

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:
Senator:
CYRWAY of Kennebec

READ.
Representative WARREN of Hallowell moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

Representative DUNPHY of Old Town **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 539

YEA - Alley, Arata, Arford, Austin, Babbidge, Bell, Berry, Bickford, Blier, Blume, Boyle, Bradstreet, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Cloutier, Collamore, Collings, Connor, Copeland, Corey, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Dillingham, Dodge, Doudera, Downes, Ducharme, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Faulkingham, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Greenwood, Griffin, Grohoski, Harnett, Harrington, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Kinney, Landry, LaRochelle, Lyman, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Martin T, Mason, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett H, Millett R, Morales, Moriarty, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connell, O'Neil, Ordway, Osher, Parry, Peabworth, Perkins, Perry, Pierce, Pluecker, Poirier, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roche, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Skolfield, Stearns, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Tepler, Terry, Theriault, Thorne, Tucker, Tuell, Underwood, Warren C, Warren S, White B, White D, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Drinkwater, Foster, Gifford, Hall, Hanley, Hutchins, Javner, Lemelin, Libby, O'Connor, Pickett, Prescott, Quint, Rudnicki, Sampson, Stetkis, Wadsworth.

ABSENT - Bernard, Cardone, Costain, Dolloff, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Lookner, Lyford, McDonald, Paulhus, Perry, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley.

Yes, 114; No, 18; Absent, 15; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

114 having voted in the affirmative and 18 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 15 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-956)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-956)** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-957)** on Bill "An Act To Create the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority"
(H.P. 1259) (L.D. 1694)

Signed:

Senators:

CURRY of Waldo
CYRWAY of Kennebec
RAFFERTY of York

Representatives:

ROBERTS of South Berwick
AUSTIN of Gray
BERNARD of Caribou
COLLAMORE of Pittsfield
DUCHARME of Madison
GEIGER of Rockland
HASENFUS of Readfield
LaROCHELLE of Augusta
PEBworth of Blue Hill

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representative:

ANDREWS of Paris

READ.

Representative HASENFUS of Readfield moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

Representative ANDREWS of Paris **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Madison, Representative Ducharme.

Representative **DUCHARME**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of this bill, LD 1694. Across the State in nearly every community, there are houses that are abandoned, foreclosed on by out-of-state banks and left vacant. These properties often have structural, cosmetic, or title problems or, worse yet, the mortgage was sold so many times it's nearly impossible to find the owner. Out-of-state banks have found it cheaper to pay the taxes yearly and let the property sit vacant rather than rehab and sell it. In many cases, the loan write-off is nothing more than a rounding error on their balance sheet. Municipalities are left with these derelict properties and no way to rehabilitate them. The Land Bank Authority will help with that. It will allow Maine to access federal dollars to assist with these properties in hopes of getting them back in use in those towns that sorely need housing options. By working with the Good Representative from Freeport, the final bill provides that a town must opt in to the provisions of the Maine Land Bank Authority. This process is not driven by the authority, but the authority supports the towns. The bill creates a development-ready advisory committee to provide assistance upon request to the towns. This bill honors Title 30-A and the longstanding tradition of home rule that we have in Maine. Please join me in supporting this bill. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Freeport, Representative Sachs.

Representative **SACHS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today in strong support and thank my good friend, the Representative from Madison, for also doing so this morning in support of LD 1694, "An Act To Create the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority". This bill was developed by a dedicated group of stakeholders who represent municipalities from Caribou to Rumford to Sanford. Also, planning and economic development organizations across the State such as Androscoggin Valley and Kennebec Valley Council of Governments, Build Maine and the Northern Maine Economic Development Corporation. They identified a problem that is in every community in Maine, big and small; what to do with those abandoned, environmentally compromised, or functionally obsolete properties and how to bring them back into productive use. My good friend, the Representative from Pittsfield, can show you a picture, Mr. Speaker, of a house with a tree growing through it, if you wish. These are the properties that private developers will not touch and municipalities simply do not have the capacity to redevelop.

So, the result, Mr. Speaker, of this collaborative effort and extensive research was the identification of a tool of a land bank, which 18 other states currently employ to redevelop these properties. The land bank leverages federal resources. Currently there are five billion, with a B, dollars sitting there specifically for community reinvestment of this type, including land banks, from the federal government that we can leverage to clean up and mitigate these issues. The land bank, as the Good Representative from Madison says, works with municipalities who opt in to this process. It will provide technical assistance to communities as they wish in the form of best practice guidelines with a development-ready planning committee and staff to discuss next steps. This tool remains optional for every municipality with no mandates, just with support. So, this bill has earned incredibly diverse and strong support from folks, many municipalities including the Mayors Coalition, Maine Municipal Association, environmental groups, housing groups and economic development groups across the State. Thank you so much for the opportunity to talk about this bill, Mr. Speaker and I urge your support. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Rockland, Representative Geiger.

Representative **GEIGER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of this bill as well, as a member of the IDEA committee. We spent many workshops to make sure this bill would fit the needs of municipalities. As a former city councilor and a former mayor of the City of Rockland, I have experienced firsthand the endless frustration of trying to determine title in order to get vacant, decaying buildings back on the tax rolls or to productive use. It may be a rounding error, as my colleague, Representative Ducharme said, for banks, but it has devastated towns and cities throughout Maine. I'm very excited by this bill and the work that Representative Sachs did to bring it forward and I hope everyone will follow my light.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will remind Members to refer to other Members by the location where they represent first.

A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 540

YEA - Alley, Arata, Arford, Austin, Babbidge, Bell, Berry, Bickford, Blier, Blume, Boyle, Bradstreet, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Carlow, Carmichael, Cloutier, Collamore, Collings, Connor, Copeland, Corey, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Dillingham, Dodge, Doudera, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Faulkingham, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Griffin, Grohoski, Hall, Hanley, Harnett, Harrington, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Javner, Kessler, Kinney, Landry, LaRochelle, Lemelin, Lyman, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mason, Mathieson, Matlack, McCreag, McCreight, McDonald, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett H, Millett R, Morales, Moriarty, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Parry, Pebworth, Perkins, Perry, Pickett, Pierce, Pluecker, Poirier, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roche, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Skolfield, Stearns, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Tepler, Terry, Theriault, Thorne, Tucker, Tuell, Underwood, Wadsworth, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Cebra, Foster, Gifford, Greenwood, Hutchins, Libby, Martin, O'Connor, Ordway, Prescott, Quint, Rudnicki, Sampson, Stetkis, White.

ABSENT - Bernard, Cardone, Costain, Dolloff, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Lookner, Lyford, Paulhus, Perry, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley.

Yes, 117; No, 16; Absent, 14; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

117 having voted in the affirmative and 16 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 14 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-957)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-957)** and sent for concurrence.

Ten Members of the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** report in Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-958)** on Bill "An Act To Prohibit the Contamination of Clean Soils with So-called Forever Chemicals"

(H.P. 1417) (L.D. 1911)

Signed:

Senators:

BRENNER of Cumberland
BENNETT of Oxford
CARNEY of Cumberland

Representatives:

TUCKER of Brunswick
BELL of Yarmouth
BLUME of York
BOYLE of Gorham
DOUDERA of Camden
GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach
ZEIGLER of Montville

Two Members of the same Committee report in Report "B" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-959)** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representatives:

HANLEY of Pittston
O'CONNOR of Berwick

One Member of the same Committee reports in Report "C" **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representative:

TUELL of East Machias

READ.

Representative TUCKER of Brunswick moved that the House **ACCEPT** Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended**.

Representative O'CONNOR of Berwick **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended**.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Berwick, Representative O'Connor.

Representative **O'CONNOR**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I just got done reading a consumer report on PFAS. It was a 25-page report. It's relatively interesting, especially due to what this bill does. I'm not sure a lot of people know, but the quantities of PFAS found in modern food packaging really demonstrates the absurdity of this legislative initiative and regulatory overreach here in Maine. Trying to regulate a limited list of PFAS compounds in the environment, water and soil, at ridiculously low concentrations, 20 parts per trillion in drinking water and zero parts per trillion for compost unless, ironically, that compost is derived from food waste that is blessed by MOFGA, defies scientific reasoning. Meanwhile, these substances remain a component of many of the products that we regularly consume, with which we have intimate contact; our clothes, textiles, furnishing, carpets, etcetera, let alone the packaging we use to wrap our foods or the pots and pans we use to prepare it before directly consuming it. Maine's legislative and regulatory approaches represent the proverbial trying to catch the horse after it's left the barn. And then, when you look at the concentrations that the consumer reports observed in food packaging, notably from a number of companies that were already knowledgeable about PFAS and indicated a deliberate plan to reduce its presence in their customized packaging choices, the absurdity really hits home. Concentrations in the tens to hundreds of parts per million.

So, while the Legislature and the Maine DEP are setting limits in the parts per trillion in drinking level water, the very constituents that they're trying to protect are consuming food that is in direct contact with these very same compounds at the concentrations that are in orders of magnitude greater. Like I have discussed with many of you, Patagonia has come up with the very first raingear, the very first, that has no PFAS in it. So, it can be done, however, no other raingear or any other products have been able to remove the PFAS.

I suspect that each of the big food companies that the consumer reports sampled probably also have awareness of some sort of PFAS reduction plan. I doubt that our local mom and pop pizza shops or Chinese restaurants know what PFAS is or are actively looking for PFAS free packaging. They're buying what is available from their distributors and probably what is most cost effective. I don't even think that PFAS is on their radar for those products. LD 1911 doesn't seem to me to be about protecting the people of Maine. It's a selective ban born because some legislators don't like the practice of

recycling municipal biosolids despite overwhelming scientific evidence that the practice is safe and protective of human health and the environment and provides a host of quantifiable benefits in terms of soil conservation, nutrient recycling and carbon sequestration. LD 1911's pursuit of nonscientific product bans is bad enough but that doesn't even attempt to set uniform standards or rules which all residuals are required to meet. This seems like pure hypocrisy to me, Mr. Speaker. This bill is not science. This bill is a hot-button issue. It affects all of us, it will continue to affect all of us and I don't know how many of you live up and around the Juniper Ridge landfill or any other landfill but what is going to happen when all of the waste that we have that can no longer be used, are we going to expand those landfills to accommodate for this? I think that in the long run, this bill is very dangerous. The federal government at this time is spending millions upon millions of dollars to try and fix this issue at that level. I think that we should work with all of the experts at the federal level, use the information that they are paying for and have paid for instead of using the money that we have that's associated with this bill in the first year, \$1,799,000, the following year almost \$4 million. That money will be thrown out the window. It will not come to the realization of what people think this legislation will do. This legislation will hurt more than it will harm. I want PFAS out of products but we have to strike the root. This does not strike the root. Therefore, I remain in opposition to this pending motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would remind Members to not speak to the motivations of other Members. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Pittston, Representative Hanley.

Representative **HANLEY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I also rise in opposition to the pending motion. The intention is good behind this legislation but, not as usual but occasionally in this House, we put legislation ahead that is not ready. In other words, it's going to have unintended consequences that we'll need to return and fix later and this piece of legislation is just that. The forever chemical we're talking about has a history of about 80 years. It's been with us a long time. We've been using it and exposing ourselves to it, as the Good Representative from Berwick said, for years and years under a multitude of different products. So, we're trying to strike a dragon dead but we're cutting his tail off instead of going for the head. The key to this is to stop the introduction of this molecule into the consumption chain at the beginning, not at the end. And of course, it's an overkill in a lot of other ways as well. You're going to affect the farmers that use this component for the sludge component for their fertilizing, it's going to directly affect the small farms in the State of Maine and they're extremely concerned about this. And, also, it's an unfunded mandate. Our sewage treatment districts are going to be required to landfill everything. That is going to come at a cost and the ratepayers in those districts will have to pick it up. And also, under State law, remember landfills aren't required to take it. So, when a town wishes to try to move its sledge to these landfills under new contracts, they might be denied. We don't have any control over that. So, that's what I'm saying is there are unforeseen consequences that are going to be coming out of this. We'll have to return, I'm certain, next session and repair some of the damage this legislation is going to do. So, I'm asking you to follow my light and defeat this well-intentioned movement, but this isn't the bill to do this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Fort Fairfield, Representative McCrea.

Representative **McCREA**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this motion and wish to read a testimony that came before the ENR and also came before the ACEF committee and I am a member of that committee. It starts by saying I am Adrienne Lee, Ken Lamson and Robin from New Beat Farm in Knox, Maine. At this point, I would like to interject the fact that when she said Ken Lamson, I thought this sounds like a person I taught biology to a number of years ago. After the testimony, I asked her, she says it was indeed and hello. Ladies and gentlemen, for just a minute I ask you to try to put yourself in the place of these people. We have a 94-acre farm with 34 acres of open farmland where we grow certified organic vegetables, we make hay for our animals, we sell our food at local farmers markets, a multi-farm CSA, local restaurants, co-ops. Over the years, our food has been in the fridge of thousands of Maine households. Our families have been in Maine for generations. Both of us left and decided to come back because we could see a path towards making a living growing food for our local community right here in our State of Maine.

Ken grew up with his family working on dairy farms and fulfilling a dream to own his own farm has been a major accomplishment. At this point, we have invested over 20 years in agriculture here in the State of Maine and have all the intention to be doing this the rest of our lives. We purchased our farm about ten years ago and have put a lot of sweat equity into improving our old 1880s farmhouse and investments in our business. The investments we've made have benefitted other local businesses as we purchased or received services and our town as benefitted from our increase in tax revenue as the value of our property and infrastructure has grown. Since our land was not passed down to us, like many other young farmers in Maine, we did not have clear records of the history of how our fields were managed before we were here. This February, we learned from DEP maps that a significant portion of our growing land had a history of sludge spreading and a subsequent well water test came back with levels of PFAS 100 times higher than the safe drinking water standards the State has set for these chemicals. In a matter of weeks, our business went from forecasting for record growth for the 2022 season to insecurity about being able to pay our bills or see a clear path forward for the season. The pride and confidence we had that we were feeding our family and our community safe and healthy food had been crushed. We pulled our crops off the market and started drinking bottled water, even refraining from giving our 19-month-old daughter baths out of concern that we couldn't keep her from drinking the tub water.

Our farm is in a current state of limbo. In this time of year when I should be starting our tomato and onion seedlings, I don't even know if I will have a place to plant them. The lack of any current guidelines for acceptable thresholds of PFAS in vegetable crops and huge delays in getting soil and crop testing is putting our entire business at risk. Thankfully, the DEP has installed a water filtration system in our house and the Maine Department of Ag has been hugely responsive in trying to develop supports for affected farmers but the scope of the effects of these findings go beyond what any of these agencies can do alone or even at all when it comes to the longer-term consequences of our farm and family or the potential for the outright shuttering of our business. The level of PFAS in our drinking water that we have been drinking for 10 years, nursing and raising our 20-month-old daughter on, is highly likely to have long-term health consequences for our family. The contamination of soils will dramatically limit our

ability to grow crops on these affected fields. The value of our property overnight went from being our one and only asset to the potential of being a huge, unsealable liability where even if we wanted to leave to start a farm elsewhere, we couldn't sell this land. The hopes and dreams of passing all this hard work and sweat equity on to our daughter for her to enjoy for generations to come now feels like passing on more of a risk than an asset. The reason we're standing here today, though, is not just to share our sob stories but to push the Legislature to act to stop this continual spreading of sludge so that there aren't any more farmers standing in our shoes or more rural Mainers finding out that their health and their family's health have been compromised by PFAS contaminating in their wells. The effects of this are not only felt by this group of farmers, but trickle down to the thousands of customers we serve in this State and the broader effects on the vibrant local food economy from the restaurant boom in Portland built on a foundation of access to quality local food to the thousands of dollars to produce these farms before you provide for local food pantries, soup kitchens that are especially needed during the COVID pandemic. We are not saying that there won't be a financial cost to eliminating the spreading of sludge or composting it, but the cost of not passing LD 1911 will be much higher, with Maine paying the price of poisoned wells, loss of livelihoods, loss of local food security and the huge cleanup costs the State is projected to see. We urge the Legislature to pass LD 1911 so that there isn't yet another generation of Maine farmers and rural community members that have to bear the brunt of what these chemicals are doing to their health and their local economies. I ask that you follow my light, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from East Machias, Representative Tuell.

Representative **TUELL**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise in opposition to this legislation. And I know folks before me have done a great job of explaining why this is such a bad idea, but I will add in that one of the biggest concerns; I started reading through the bill when it came to committee and it does a lot of things but Section one stopped me dead in my tracks. And when we first had the bill, had a public or had a work session on the bill, rather, I brought up that this would be a mandate and here we are, we're going to be forcing municipalities to do testing and not providing any resources to do that. So, the work session kind of dragged on a couple of hours and we took a break or two and we'd come back from a break and lo and behold, there was a \$3 million in funding put on this to sort of make the mandate go away, if you will, to cover the costs. But that, unfortunately, like many things that are mandates, there's money up front, there's testing resources from municipalities up front for a year or two and after that, everybody's on their own. Once the headlines are gone and once people have kind of put things to the side and other issues have risen to the top, yet the municipalities are still going to be winding up doing all this testing. And, ultimately, at some point mitigation because once you test, if you find something, there's a lot more costs that come along and that hasn't even been addressed.

I will say through the course of the work session, it came to light that this could cost \$300 a test for anyone that has to have this testing. And if it's anything like the testing that we're now doing with lead in schools, after a few years the towns and schools and everybody else are going to be footing the bill to send samples out of State and there are going to be a lot of costs that nobody saw coming. I would just caution folks for supporting this legislation given that and I do see a mandate

for this, not so much in the short term but over the longer-term. And there may be hidden costs in this that nobody has fully realized. So, I will be voting in opposition to the pending motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bangor, Representative Roeder.

Representative **ROEDER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker and my Colleagues in the House, recently I had the privilege of talking with Fred Stone of Arundel, a third-generation dairy farmer whose products were found to be contaminated with PFAS to the point where his livelihood was destroyed. Fred graciously took time away from his evening chores to tell me a story he's told so many times since 2017. I can't imagine what it must take to continually tell and retell his story but the pain was evident in his voice. PFAS contamination has effectively ended his family's century-old farming operation. He told me in detail how heartbreaking it was to have to put down the majority of his herd. He spoke about his declining health and the very real prospect of losing his house. It was a wrenching conversation, to say the very least. Unfortunately, Fred's story is not unique in our State. The stories of families across Maine who have discovered the spread of industrial and municipal sludge on their farms are increasing in number, only compounding this tragedy. Not only have their farming businesses been upended, but the health of their families and the communities they sell their produce to may now be in jeopardy due to PFAS contamination. PFAS is known as forever chemicals. They do not break down easily. This means that once contamination is present, it is present for a very long time and, further, has the ability to bioaccumulate in our wildlife. For a State so tied to and proud of its hunting and fishing traditions, this is alarming.

In November 2021, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection began their investigation into the presence of PFAS from sludge and septage spreading, which is a great first start to addressing this pressing issue. However, more must be done. LD 1911 helps to close existing loopholes that allow for the spread of PFAS-containing sludge on our farmland and in our backyard gardens, preventing further contamination and helping to bolster our strong agricultural and aquacultural sections. Mr. Speaker, we must act quickly to address sludge-spreading to preserve our farmlands, support our farm workers and protect the health of our communities. I urge you to support our farms by supporting this bill.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Kennebunk, Representative Babbidge.

Representative **BABBIDGE**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This problem has been stalking my family, it appears and actually I think it's stalking all of us. In my school district, the Town of Arundel was the site of the first problem that got statewide attention, I think, regarding this issue. The Former Representative from Arundel brought legislation to this Body and we acted accordingly. My daughter who lives in Massachusetts, we have a 1-year-old granddaughter. The EPA has just announced that, well, not just announced, but the EPA has specified that newborns and lactating women are especially vulnerable, potentially, for damage according to PFAS and their town discovered that their local well was, indeed, exceeding PFAS standards. So, I bring to your attention the statement by the Environmental Protection Agency of all of their targeted strategies, they emphasize that we need to get upstream of the problem. The EPA will bring deeper focus preventing PFAS from entering the environment in the first place; a foundational step to reducing the exposure

and potential risks of future PFAS contamination. Addressing PFAS is by filtration and it can be by granulated, activated carbon treatment or an ion exchange filter or high-pressure membranes including reverse osmosis. Depending on the amount of gallons going through, these filters cost anywhere from half a million to in excess of a million dollars. How often do they need to be replaced, it would be determined by how much PFAS we are entering into the system. So, we need to act on the motion before us. If you aren't persuaded by the cost and loss of livelihood or the cost to human health, then think of the ongoing costs of dealing with this through replacement filters as the problem gets worse and worse unless we address it today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Warren, Representative Pluecker.

Representative **PLUECKER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to speak briefly. I know there's a lot of people in the queue and a lot of folks getting a drink. But I just want to say briefly to the mandate section, which is Section 1, which was referenced earlier, just reading directly from the bill; the department by written notification may require a person licensed by the department to do testing. This is not a shall. We also got the report back from the Attorney General's Office which also says that it is not a mandate. They have four different reasons why it's not a mandate. I won't go into it but we've done some studying of the issue; it's not a mandate. I think conversation about whether or not this is a harm to farmers, whether or not this is a harm to our consumers, whether or not this is a harm to our land, water, fish, deer, I think we've answered that; it clearly is. It's agreed even at the federal level that we also heard some conversation that we should follow the EPA on this. The EPA is right now drastically reducing the amount of PFAS that they're allowing in our food system, in our soil, in our water. This is dropping quickly. We are not just cutting off the tail here, we are cutting off the head, maybe it's too much to say we're cutting off the head of the dragon, but we are turning off the tap with this bill. We know we are poisoned but when we know we are poisoned, does that mean we therefore will take more poison into our systems to see how far we need to go before we're badly damaged? We are badly damaged as a state, our farmers are badly damaged, it is time to stop putting this poison onto our fields and into our food system and take action today. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from South Portland, Representative Reckitt.

Representative **RECKITT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have to say that of all of the constituent mail I've had, or emails, in this session, the most of them have been about PFAS and about the Juniper Ridge landfill, which may seem a little strange since I live in South Portland, where we have neither of those two things, although I'm sure we have PFAS. And as I listened to the debate, it was very difficult for me not to have my brain go to Flint, Michigan and their lead pipes and the catastrophe that caused. And, to me, for us to continue to put PFAS into our soil feels to me like somebody said to Flint, Michigan well, your pipes are bad, you should just put new lead pipes in, it'll be cheaper. That is crazy. And I think it's really not sensible in the least for us to continue to contaminate the soils of our farmers, to contaminate the bodies of our citizens and I hope that we will pass this bill. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Alfred, Representative Sampson.

Representative **SAMPSON**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I oppose this measure. And I'd like you to consider the following. As we face food

prices increasing and supply chains breaking down, the last thing Mainers need is less food available to us at the local level. I believe this bill needs to go back to the drawing boards. It should simply address the spreading of sludge, but what's happening is there are farmers from York County to Aroostook County who hold permits to spread this but have not spread it and they are going to be caught up in the dragnet with this bill. And are we seriously wanting to shut down agriculture in the State of Maine? I have a problem with this and I ask you to oppose this. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Arundel, Representative Parry.

Representative **PARRY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I kind of want to follow up. I had every intention of voting for this bill when I came up here today. As the Good Representative from Kennebunk said, I represent where this started and I even put in legislation, we passed a bill from my good friend from Warren last year that addressed one section of this. But I got a call this morning after I had read the bill and done the summary and everything which a lot of us do and was in full-fledge panic because he held a permit to spread sludge, but never did. There's a section of the bill that says that he could be caught up with this just because of holding a permit. I don't think that was the intent of this legislation. I guarantee you that most, if not all, farms at one point or another held permits. Some held permits probably right up until now but had never spread any of this on their fields. But according to this legislation, they cannot sell anything from their farm. In the legislation, they can't even use it. So, I would really hope that my good friend from Brunswick might consider pulling this back and fixing this language because I agree with my good friend from Alfred that stopping the spreading of sludge is one thing and I really think we need to go right to that issue. This other language in here could bring every single farm in the State not being able to sell their product, even if they never spread any of this sludge or this product on their fields. Unintended consequences of language and I really think that, you know, this needs to be tweaked a little bit and, like I said, I had full intention of supporting this but after reading that language, that could bring every farm in the State under this bill and not being able to sell their product just because they held a permit. So, we really got to think about this and I really would hope that we could pull this back somehow and fix that language because if that language isn't fixed, we could have some real bad unintended consequences of this bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Brunswick, Representative Tucker.

Representative **TUCKER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The first issue raised by the Good Representative from Berwick is what about other things that have PFAS in them other than sewage? What about leaves, what about other things that also may have an equivalent amount of PFAS in it? The answer to that is the sewage is an obvious and historic source for this substance. It's a defined substance which is already regulated. And it is an appropriate way to help turn off the tap on PFAS going into our fields and waters. Regarding the Representative from Pittston talking about the unintended consequences, my answer to that is the consequences are here. The consequences of spreading PFAS has happened and young farmers are being put out of business and their farms rendered useless. The Representative from East Machias, he's worried about the cost of testing. Well, the department has agreed that they will be using federal money to do the testing initially. The Chief Executive has plans for setting up a lab which will take

care of costs significantly. But how, this is just like an ostrich sticking their head in the sand and saying we don't want to test. And, lastly, the Representative from Arundel is talking about septage, which is separate from sludge, okay, septage is a different thing --

The SPEAKER: The Member will defer. The Chair would remind the Member to direct his comments to the Chair. The Member may proceed.

Representative **TUCKER**: Okay. All it says is that if a person is licensed and permitted to spread seepage, they won't be able to apply it if the department notifies them that the tests show that ground water at the location or in drinking water sources in close proximity exceeds applicable drinking water standards. So, I suggest that his constituent who has a license to spread septage contact the DEP and find out the truth about how this works. There's a lot of misunderstanding out there. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Alfred, Representative Sampson.

Representative **SAMPSON**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to ask a question through the Chair.

The SPEAKER: The Member may proceed.

Representative **SAMPSON**: When it comes to the farms that hold permits but have not spread any sludge, why couldn't this bill include some form of testing? It seems like there's some big pieces missing here and, like I said, the dragnet is where these farmers are going to get caught up in. How is this going to be resolved?

The SPEAKER: The Representative from Alfred, Representative Sampson, has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who wishes to answer it. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Warren, Representative Pluecker.

Representative **PLUECKER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The testing is being done by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. They are currently on their tier one sites and they're doing that. So, anywhere that is likely to have contamination, testing is occurring. It is paid for by the department currently and we're sending more money their way to do more testing.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Knox, Representative Kinney.

Representative **KINNEY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. We all know this is a very contentious issue. As many of you already know, I come from the town of Knox, where cows outnumber people, a very agricultural area. In fact, the town of Knox is completely zoned agriculture. So, this hits very, very close to home. I want to reiterate what my good friend, the Representative from Berwick, pointed out earlier, that we need to remember that the sledge, the septage, the solids are getting their PFAS from all of us, from our waste. It's in our clothing, it's in our cookware, it's in our food packaging, our carpeting, our furniture, our firefighter foam, the list goes on. It got into that sludge because we put it there with everything that we do. I absolutely believe we need to stop spreading contaminants on our soils. We need to stop. This bill goes a little too far. I agree with my other good friend, the Representative from Arundel, who pointed out the section that's of most concern to me. And it is in the Majority Report, it's Section no, it's just Section seven. It affects Title 38, Chapter 13 and it's, Section 1306, subsection 7; prohibitions on land application of sludge, sale and distribution of compost and other agricultural products and materials containing sledge and septage, sale, distribution and use of crops grown at septage application sites. This subsection governs the land application of sludge, the sale and

distribution of compost and other agricultural products and materials containing sledge and septage and the sale, distribution and use of crops grown at septage application sites. And when you go down to A, number three, it says sell, distribute, or use in the State an agricultural crop or other vegetative material for any agricultural purpose including, but not limited to, for use as animal feed, if the agricultural crop or vegetative material was grown at a location in the State where septage is licensed or permitted to be applied or spread. The Good Representative from Alfred pointed out that it doesn't have to have actually been applied, they just have to hold a license. So, some of the products that are listed under this section, they don't actually absorb the PFAS chemical from the contaminated soil and potentially could shut down every farm in our State. Many of the farms that spread the sludge are currently working very closely with DEP to ensure safety of the products that they're making and they're producing products on land that have previously licensed to be spread and spread the septage, the sludge on their fields.

In Title 38, Chapter 13, Section 1303-C is the definitions. Subsection 27 is septage, which is waste, refuse, effluent, I'm going to read it directly from the Statute here; sludge and other materials from septic tanks, cesspools, or any other similar facilities. Subsection 28-A is the definition of sludge. "Sludge" means nonhazardous solid, semisolid, or liquid waste generated from a municipal, commercial, or industrial wastewater treatment plant, water supply treatment plant or wet process air pollution control facility or any other waste having similar characteristics and effect. The term does not include industrial discharges that are point sources subject to permits under the federal Clean Water Act, 33 United States Code, Section 1342(1999). "Solid waste" is definition 29, means useless, unwanted or discarded solid material with insufficient liquid content to be free-flowing, including, but not limited to, rubbish, garbage, refuse-derived fuel, scrap materials, junk, refuse, inert fill material and landscape refuse; there's your leaves, but does not include hazardous waste, biomedical waste, septage or agricultural wastes. The fact that a solid waste or constituent of the waste may have value or other use or may be sold or exchanged does not exclude it from this definition.

We've heard about the exceptions for various types of compost that are approved and that is in the case, that is in both and these are in both reports. So, I'm at a loss as to where I'm going to go with this. I really am, because I'm getting a lot of phone calls on this but there are exceptions to what these prohibitions do not apply to. The problem is the PFAS is actually in a lot of these products that are being excepted out and I think we need to figure out what levels are in these products. Are the farmers; the farmers are really trying to work with DEP. This is a high-tension issue amongst farmers. And there isn't a farmer in this State that wants to contaminate food, doesn't want to contaminate their soil. They don't want to do this. They were forced to take this in a lot of ways back when the State said here, here's your free fertilizer. We will test your soil to make sure that you're not getting any toxic levels. The problem was they didn't test for this chemical and we're finding it now and we're trying to come up with solutions. And at some point, putting every farm out of business that's producing the food that we all eat is not the right way to go just yet. Not every agricultural crop that's grown on contaminated soil is contaminated with PFAS. There have been studies, this is a worldwide issue and the studies worldwide are finding what products are actually pulling it from the soil, which we should be planting, trying to figure out how

to pull it out of the contaminated soil. We need to come up with a way to properly dispose of the contaminated product and then the products that are not contaminated, we still need to feed the world. We need to feed the people of the State of Maine and we can do it, we have bills to make us self-sufficient to eliminate hunger in Maine by making us self-sufficient for feeding our people. This bill will ensure we can't do that. I'm still not sure where I'm going to go, but I do hope we take very close look at what this bill is going to do and understand that this isn't going to fix the PFAS problem that we have in the State of Maine as it's written. I think there's more we can do to fix it and I'm not sure that this is the way to go. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Gorham, Representative Boyle.

Representative **BOYLE**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a complicated issue. It came before us early when I arrived here in January in the Environment Natural Resources Committee. I heard from farmers pro and con, I heard from wastewater treatment facilities, we all did, heard from nurseries, heard from landscape companies, it's a difficult issue. I tried to read all about it, I learned a lot about it, I listened to everybody. One of the things I try to bring to this process is that I am a business owner and I heard from businesses and I understand the concern. I'm a grandfather of four grandchildren and I have concerns about the future for them. I also think about commonsense, much of which I learned from my nana when I was younger and I would have a problem and I'd come to her and I kept having the same problem. One thing nana taught me was if you're banging your head against a brick wall and you're getting a headache, you should stop banging your head against a brick wall. So, if you're spreading sludge and if you know it has PFAS in it, what you should do is stop spreading the sludge. Now, originally, this was an emergency provision. We did strip that, it's 90 days. We were told most of the sludge is spread before the growing season. So, if it takes effect 90 days after this, the people would've already spread their sledge for this season and they've known this is coming. So, please support this bill. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Camden, Representative Doudera.

Representative **DOUDERA**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of LD 1911 and hope that everyone follows our light. Do the best you can until you know better and then when you know better, do better. Those are the words of Maya Angelou. To me, they seem tailor-made for our PFAS problem. And it is a huge problem. What we've heard today on both sides of the aisle is correct. It's complex. It's everywhere. We have passed legislation in the past to address PFAS, we have other bills that address it in other ways, because now we know better. And because we know better, we must do better. And this bill is a continuing effort in that fight. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of Report "A" Ought to Pass as Amended. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 541

YEA - Alley, Andrews, Arford, Babbidge, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazza, Cloutier, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Faulkingham, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Pebworth, Perry, Pierce, Pluecker, Poirier, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roeder, Rudnicki, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Tepler, Terry, Tucker, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Arata, Austin, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Carlow, Carmichael, Ceбра, Collamore, Connor, Corey, Dillingham, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Foster, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Lemelin, Libby, Lyman, Martin, Mason, Millett, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Theriault, Thorne, Tuell, Underwood, Wadsworth, White.

ABSENT - Bernard, Cardone, Costain, Dolloff, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Lookner, Lyford, Paulhus, Perry, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley.

Yes, 81; No, 52; Absent, 14; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

81 having voted in the affirmative and 52 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 14 being absent, and accordingly Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended** was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-958)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-958)** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

Seven Members of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** report in Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-961)** on Bill "An Act To Permit Limited Delivery of Adult Use Marijuana"

(H.P. 1360) (L.D. 1827)

Signed:

Senators:

HICKMAN of Kennebec
MIRAMANT of Knox

Representatives:

HARRINGTON of Sanford
McCREIGHT of Harpswell
RIELLY of Westbrook
SUPICA of Bangor
WOOD of Portland

Four Members of the same Committee report in Report "B" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-962)** on same Bill.

Signed:
Senator: FARRIN of Somerset

Representatives:
CAIAZZO of Scarborough
COREY of Windham
KINNEY of Knox

One Member of the same Committee reports in Report "C" **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:
Representative:
DOLLOFF of Milton Township

READ.

Representative CAIAZZO of Scarborough moved that the House **ACCEPT** Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended**.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Scarborough, Representative Caiazzo.

Representative **CAIAZZO**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House, I want to start by applauding my fellow members of the committee for the bipartisan work they did on this amendment. It was a lot of work and a lot of effort went into it. However, what this amendment does is it would allow for the delivery of adult-use dispensaries to deliver cannabis to residential homes. That in and of itself is not a challenge as long as your community has opted in. Unfortunately, my community of Scarborough or, unfortunately, depending on your perspective, has opted out. And what this amendment would allow, it would allow delivery from outside communities into Scarborough and for that reason and that reason only, I cannot support this amendment. The Maine Municipal Association had similar concerns. So, I will not be as presumptuous to ask you to follow my light. It really is a decision, I think, for each community, but I would ask you to please respect the decision of my community and others like it who chose for whatever reason not to opt in to recreational sales and consider that before voting to support this proposal. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Windham, Representative Corey.

Representative **COREY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm going to echo what the Representative from Scarborough said. I don't know how many people are still in this chamber that sat back on the Marijuana Legalization and Implementation Committee back in the 128th Legislature. What had happened back then is that we had the marijuana referendum pass in the State of Maine. Within that, we had an opt-out clause, so, communities were automatically opted out before they then opted in to be able to do, you know, some component of the adult recreational market in their community, whether that was selling it, manufacturing it, meaning that they were doing some kind of processing or cultivating it. You know, towns had a variety of reasons for opting, so, anyways, what we did was we changed the entire law in order to make it that a community would actually have to opt in to some component of that. I think that, you know, communities had a lot of different reasons. I think that some of the proponents of this bill would say that communities maybe didn't want, you know, a marijuana store on the main drag in town, but, you know, some communities have, you know, other reasons like they just weren't into marijuana. If you look at the majority of Maine communities right now, most of them haven't opted in and what we're doing here is we would be allowing sort of marijuana sales within those communities. So, I think it's, you know,

again, a local control issue if somebody wants legal marijuana, they can certainly go to one of those other communities to get it and bring it home but, you know, the idea that we're now sort of foisting upon those communities that haven't opted in, just it really seems wrong. And I come from a town where our town council has decided to allow recreational marijuana but I still don't think that it should be allowed in those other communities. Anyways, thank you.

Representative KINNEY of Knox **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended**.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Knox, Representative Kinney.

Representative **KINNEY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I concur with my colleagues on committee, the Representative from Scarborough and the Representative from Windham on this motion. The biggest problem is the local control piece, where we are allowing delivery into towns that are dry, so to speak. In addition to coming from a town where cows outnumber people, we're also still a dry town for alcohol. So, you can't purchase spirits in the town of Knox. So, the idea of being able to have marijuana products delivered in a town that has stayed with the opt out portion of what we did in this Body and the other Body back when the referendum piece had passed amongst the whole state, we need to be able to protect that local rule, that home rule and I urge you to vote this motion down so that we could bring forward a better motion for this bill. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of Report "A" Ought to Pass as Amended. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 542

YEA - Andrews, Arford, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Collamore, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Faulkingham, Fay, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Harrington, Hasenfus, Hepler, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Libby, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Martin T, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, O'Connell, O'Connor, O'Neil, Osher, Pierce, Pluecker, Prescott, Reckitt, Rielly, Roeder, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Tepler, Terry, Tucker, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Alley, Arata, Austin, Babbidge, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Bryant, Caiazzo, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Cloutier, Connor, Corey, Dillingham, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Foster, Geiger, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Hall, Hanley, Hutchins, Hymanson, Javner, Kinney, Lemelin, Lyman, Mason, Millett, Moriarty, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, Ordway, Parry, Pebworth, Perkins, Perry, Pickett, Poirier, Quint, Riseman, Roche, Rudnicki, Sachs, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Theriault, Thorne, Tuell, Underwood, Wadsworth, White.

ABSENT - Bernard, Brooks, Cardone, Costain, Dolloff, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Lookner, Lyford, Paulhus, Perry, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley.

Yes, 72; No, 60; Absent, 15; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

72 having voted in the affirmative and 60 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 15 being absent, and accordingly Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended** was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-961)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-961)** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

CONSENT CALENDAR
First Day

In accordance with House Rule 519, the following item appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(H.P. 1435) (L.D. 1928) Bill "An Act To Update and Clarify the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act and Provide for Greater Transparency" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-960)**

Under suspension of the rules, Second Day Consent Calendar notification was given.

There being no objection, the House Paper was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** and sent for concurrence.

ENACTORS
Acts

An Act To Expand the Statewide Voluntary Early Childhood Consultation Program

(S.P. 220) (L.D. 533)
(C. "A" S-510)

An Act To Clarify and Recodify Maine's Protection from Abuse Statutes

(S.P. 551) (L.D. 1696)
(C. "A" S-516)

An Act To Improve the Child and Family Court Process

(S.P. 648) (L.D. 1831)
(C. "A" S-514)

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Retirement Benefit Reductions for Certain Employees Currently Included in the 1998 Special Plan

(S.P. 658) (L.D. 1840)
(C. "A" S-517)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

The following items were taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

CONSENT CALENDAR
First Day

In accordance with House Rule 519, the following items appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(H.P. 1451) (L.D. 1946) Bill "An Act To Ensure Constitutionally Adequate Contact with Counsel" Committee on **JUDICIARY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-975)**

(H.P. 1498) (L.D. 2016) Bill "An Act To Implement the Crisis Response Services Recommendations Identified Pursuant to Resolve 2021, Chapter 29" Committee on

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-973)**

(H.P. 1511) (L.D. 2029) Bill "An Act To Enhance the Prevention of and Response to Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment in the Maine National Guard" Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-974)**

Under suspension of the rules, Second Day Consent Calendar notification was given.

There being no objection, the House Papers were **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

In accordance with House Rule 519, the following item appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(H.P. 1321) (L.D. 1770) Bill "An Act To Create a Commercial Halibut Fishing License" Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-979)**

Under suspension of the rules, Second Day Consent Calendar notification was given.

There being no objection, the House Paper was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

In accordance with House Rule 519, the following items appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(H.P. 1395) (L.D. 1885) Bill "An Act To Increase Maine's Veterinary Workforce" Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-963)**

(H.P. 1472) (L.D. 1986) Bill "An Act To Exempt Permanently Disabled Veterans from Payment of Property Tax" Committee on **TAXATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-964)**

Under suspension of the rules, Second Day Consent Calendar notification was given.

There being no objection, the House Papers were **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Dover-Foxcroft, Representative Evans.

Representative **EVANS**: Mr. Speaker, I request unanimous consent to address the House on the record.

The **SPEAKER**: The Representative from Dover-Foxcroft, Representative Evans, requests unanimous consent to address the House on the record. Hearing no objection, it is so ordered. The Member may proceed.

Representative **EVANS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker and Men and Women of the House, in reference to Roll Call No. 537 on LD 1581, had I been present, I would have voted yea.

The following items were taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The following matters, in the consideration of which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment, Thursday, April 7, 2022 had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

HOUSE DIVIDED REPORT - Majority (9) **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-917)** - Minority (4) **Ought Not to Pass** - Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act To Ensure That Municipalities and Multimunicipal Regions of Every Size and Capacity Have Guidance on Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategies for Policy, Implementation and Investment Decision Support" (H.P. 1205) (L.D. 1616)

TABLED - April 5, 2022 (Till Later Today) by Representative TUCKER of Brunswick.

PENDING - Motion of same Representative to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report.

Representative HANLEY of Pittston **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Pittston, Representative Hanley.

Representative **HANLEY**: Thank you. The title has been changed dramatically and this bill now changes the original intent of the bill. But it has to do, under current law, any municipality can use funds from that municipality to repair a private road to control flow into or drainage issues into a great pond, an asset of the State that is labeled a great pond. This bill changes that and now a town will be on the hook to repair at the town's expense any private road or culvert, now, remember, private property, not public property, private property road or culvert or ditch can be the responsibility, the financial responsibility of the town to repair it if it affects any significant wetland, if I remember the name of the, I don't have the wording of the bill in front of me. So, it expands it dramatically from just a great pond to any type of natural resource and any town will now be on the hook for it. So, I ask you to vote against the pending motion. The MMA is dramatically against it, as they should be. This could put a huge financial burden on small towns, especially rural towns that have a lot of camp roads and all these other issues and they don't have the assets of a big city. So, this is directed primarily at small towns with small budgets and it could cause a huge financial issue. I ask you to follow my light and defeat a well-meaning but ill-put together issue. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 543

YEA - Alley, Arford, Babbidge, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Bryant, Caiazzo, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Madigan, Martin, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Pebworth, Perry, Pluecker, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Terry, Tucker, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Austin, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Corey, Dillingham, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Faulkingham, Foster, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Libby, Lyman, Mason, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Theriault, Thorne, Tuell, Underwood, Wadsworth.

ABSENT - Andrews, Arata, Bernard, Brooks, Cardone, Cloutier, Connor, Costain, Cuddy, Dolloff, Fay, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Hymanson, Lemelin, Lookner, Lyford, Martin J, Martin T, McDonald, Millett, Paulhus, Perry, Pierce, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley, Tepler, White.

Yes, 68; No, 49; Absent, 30; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

68 having voted in the affirmative and 49 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 30 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-917)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-917)** and sent for concurrence.

An Act Relating to the Valuation of Improved Real Property

(H.P. 807) (L.D. 1129)

(C. "A" H-788)

- In House, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-788)** on March 24, 2022.

- In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-788)** on March 29, 2022.

- **RECALLED FROM GOVERNOR**, pursuant to Joint Order (House Paper 1523).

TABLED - April 7, 2022 (Till Later Today) by Representative MATLACK of St. George.

PENDING - **FURTHER CONSIDERATION**.

On motion of Representative MATLACK of St. George, the rules were **SUSPENDED** for the purpose of **RECONSIDERATION**.

On further motion of the same Representative, the House **RECONSIDERED** its action whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**.

On further motion of the same Representative, the rules were **SUSPENDED** for the purpose of **FURTHER RECONSIDERATION**.

On further motion of the same Representative, the House **RECONSIDERED** its action whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-788)**.

On further motion of the same Representative, the rules were **SUSPENDED** for the purpose of **FURTHER RECONSIDERATION**.

On further motion of the same Representative, the House **RECONSIDERED ADOPTION of Committee Amendment "A" (H-788)**.

Representative **MATLACK** of St. George **PRESENTED House Amendment "A" (H-934) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-788)**, which was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-788) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-934) thereto was **ADOPTED**.

Representative **DILLINGHAM** of Oxford **REQUESTED** a roll call on **PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-788) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-934)** thereto.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The **SPEAKER**: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Passage to be Engrossed as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-788) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-934) thereto. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 544

YEA - Alley, Arford, Babbidge, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Bryant, Caiazza, Carmichael, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Madigan, Martin, Mathieson, Matlack, McCreight, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Pebworth, Perry, Pluecker, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Terry, Tucker, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Austin, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Carlow, Cebra, Collamore, Corey, Dillingham, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Faulkingham, Foster, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Libby, Lyman, Mason, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Theriault, Thorne, Tuell, Underwood, Wadsworth, White.

ABSENT - Andrews, Arata, Bernard, Brooks, Cardone, Cloutier, Connor, Costain, Cuddy, Dolloff, Fay, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Hymanson, Lemelin, Lookner, Lyford, Martin J, Martin T, McDonald, Millett, Paulhus, Perry, Pierce, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley, Tepler.

Yes, 69; No, 49; Absent, 29; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

69 having voted in the affirmative and 49 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 29 being absent, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-788) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-934)** thereto in **NON-CONCURRENCE** and sent for concurrence.

HOUSE DIVIDED REPORT - Majority (8) Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-945) - Minority (5) Ought Not to Pass - Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES on Bill "An Act To Establish the Trust for a Healthy Maine"

(H.P. 1127) (L.D. 1523)

TABLED - April 7, 2022 (Till Later Today) by Representative **MEYER** of Eliot.

PENDING - ACCEPTANCE OF EITHER REPORT.

Representative **MEYER** of Eliot moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended Report**.

Representative **JAVNER** of Chester **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended Report**.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Chester, Representative Javner.

Representative **JAVNER**: Thank you. This bill is one that we've been working on since the 129th. It is a very important piece for the Fund for Healthy Maine to protect it. However, I do not believe that the constitutionality issues really have been all ironed out. The Attorney General's Office looked at that, you know, closely, but it hasn't answered enough questions for me. Also, it is providing a commission of 17 members that will need to be appointed by the Executive Branch and I know this is something that all of us tried to really work hard on coming together to protect this Fund for Healthy Maine that we all agree on needs to stop being pilfered, we agree on that completely, but I do not believe that this is quite ready for the primetime. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Cape Elizabeth, Representative Millett.

Representative **MILLETT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen. I'll just simply respond to the concern raised about constitutionality and share with everyone a quote from Attorney General Frey when he was before the committee. It says we looked at the current proposals and it would appear as though all of their concerns, the constitutional concerns that may have attached to the proposal, an earlier proposal, have been addressed with the proposals that are before the committee now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Harrison, Representative Riseman.

Representative **RISEMAN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to express my positivity with this particular legislation but I do want to talk to the issue of money left on the table, the way I look at it. From the information I have, there is approximately \$30 million that we could be gaining as a State if we were to restructure the settlement with the tobacco companies. And currently we are going to fund I think it's in the order of \$38 million to establish a stabilization fund for this project, which I agree with for this, but this is not sustainable in the future and I would hope that this Body would take it under consideration that we are leaving money on the table and we should instruct the Attorney General to pursue whatever it needs to be done to gain access to about another \$30 million. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from York, Representative Hymanson.

Representative **HYMANSON**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, colleagues. I've worked with advocates and promoted and amplified public health messages and bills over eight years and I am telling you that I cannot support this motion and I'm voting against it. This trust sets up the following procedure and it takes away funds for the Legislative

Branch and gives it to the Executive Branch in the following way. The Speaker and the President nominate people to be on the panel, give those names to the Chief Executive and the Chief Executive appoints 15 people. Those 15 go through a senate process for approval. But, in the end, the Chief Executive selects those people. And then once a year this group develops a plan which is nondebtable, comes in front of the Legislature, to the committee of jurisdiction and presents their plan. It cannot be changed or modified. So, we have the Chief Executive nominating people to a panel to make a plan that is nondebtable with funds that have been given to the Legislature. So, I'm sorry, I was down in AFA voting and ran up here, so I'm just catching my breath. So, next year, we will have a shortfall in the fund and we've done this before and we can do it again. We have legislative ways to do it, that is the HHS committee, the committee of jurisdiction, can organize a small taskforce, look at what's in there and then rebalance the fund. The CDC also needs some flexibility around the fund.

The fund itself now has nine things that can go into it and I'm going to read them to you so you understand that there are some states that have taken this money, which is in perpetuity but is decreasing because people are not smoking combustible cigarettes, they're vaping and that's not part of the settlement. So, the fund amount is decreasing, it's in the \$30 million now. The health purposes of the fund are, one, smoking cessation, prevention, education and treatment concerning unhealthy weight and obesity, prenatal and young child care including home visits and support for parents, birth to six years of age, child care for children up to 15 years of age, health care for children and adults, maximizing the extent possible federal matching funds and this is where MaineCare came in and the prior administration Executive Branch pulled out money because of that, prescription drugs for the elderly, dental and oral health care to low income persons who lack adequate dental coverage, substance use disorder prevention and treatment, which was added in 2017. So, I want to talk about that. We as a Legislative Branch can add and subtract to this list and we can control what we pay for by adding and subtracting to this very list that I'm reading to you. If this bill were to go into place, 1523, this entire list would be negated and the group that the Chief Executive put in and who will present to the Legislative Branch the way that they want it spent without us being able to debate it, this whole list that was developed by the Legislature would go away. The last is comprehensive school health and nutrition programs including school-based health centers. And that is it.

So, we've done a good job in keeping this money spent and not paving roads with it, as other states have done, with this. So, the two legislative things we can do are rebalance the fund with a small group in the committee of jurisdiction and take a look at this list and have a bill that adds to it or subtracts to it depending on what we want to do and what a public hearing, a big public hearing would do. So, I don't think that this bill has the intention. I would like to keep this money in public health and it does within what I just read you. This bill would form a volunteer board which would be paid driving rates and there's a small set-aside for a coordinator who has public health experience. So, it would be set up like a nonprofit. A lot of us have had experience with nonprofit boards, it would be set up like that. The other thing that this bill does is kick out the following because it only allows that money to come into this fund but it kicks out things that are already there into the General Fund. It kicks out purchased social services, which right now is \$1.97 million for child care subsidy, which fits in number C or letter C that I just read you. It kicks out Head

Start and it kicks out low-cost DEL, which are drugs for the elderly. It has guardrails around that, but it kicks it out into the General Fund. It also kicks out MaineCare because of that what I read you, health care for children and adults, maximizing to the extent possible federal matching funds. So, if we have trouble with the amount that has been taken over with MaineCare, we can work on that through the committee. So, I will be voting Ought Not to Pass on this bill and I will look for legislative solutions to this. I should mention that this fund comes into us from the tobacco settlement and there will be other ones that come into us, potentially, through opioids and anything that we do with this bill will look like a way forward for the opioid settlement or the PFAS settlement at some point. And I don't think it's a good direction for us. I think we should keep our money with us as the Legislative Branch which is in charge of spending. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Cape Elizabeth, Representative Millett.

Representative MILLETT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the Body again. Maine is at a critical juncture. Tobacco settlement revenues are about to drop again, but this time dramatically, which will make the current Fund for a Healthy Maine baseline of 55 million per year impossible to sustain in the next biennium. So, we have an important decision to make. We can do nothing and hope for the best or we can restructure and modernize this 20-year-old fund for the health of our children and our future. Doing nothing is a lose-lose scenario. Without action, medical care, public health and prevention programs in the Fund for a Healthy Maine will be pitted against each other for limited resources in the next biennium. At a time when we can all agree we need to be doing so much more to strengthen and integrate our health care and public health systems, especially in our rural regions and in communities experiencing health disparities. Alternatively, acting now will be a win-win. By restructuring the tobacco settlement in this biennium, there is no immediate threat to programs, nothing to bargain away and no fiscal impact. With a simple transfer of funds and the creation of a long-term public health trust, we can stabilize MaineCare, Head Start, child care and drugs for the elderly programs in the General Fund. We can automate the full funding of Maine's tobacco prevention and treatment program, create an ongoing revenue stream to address health disparities and support community-based infrastructure, allow for longer-range planning, more than just a two-year cycle and the investment of settlement dollars in alignment with the highest priorities of our State health plan. Specifically, this bill does create the Trust for a Healthy Maine which would be funded with annual tobacco settlement payments. After the creation of the trust, Racino revenue will continue to flow into the Fund for a Healthy Maine and fund a portion of the drugs for elderly program. The Fund for Healthy Maine will also remain available for other revenue and allocations as determined by the Legislature and administration.

It's time to decide; will we take action or will we let this final window of opportunity pass us by? Of note, as a Legislature, since the fund's inception in 1999, its balances have been used to support General Fund programs for nearly that entire time. While the budget stabilization fund, or the Rainy Day Fund, has seen its balances grow in all but four of those years. We have diverted roughly \$300 million away from the tobacco settlement funds into other programs. Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I urge us to act now, not just because it's good policy but because it's right and just policy. A public health trust designed for the future and

funded from the ethical moral imperative of not losing one more child to tobacco addiction is an inspirational, motivational, community-building moment for the entire State of Maine and something we can all be proud of, reminding us of our ability to come together to solve big problems and do what's right for our kids and communities in a fiscally responsible way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from South Portland, Representative Morales.

Representative **MORALES**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to note to this Body that this piece of legislation is supported by our entire public health community in Maine. And we have done something like this before, we've established a trust that is dedicated to efficiency and energy efficiency, that's Efficiency Maine. This trust would function very similarly to that trust. And just to build on what the Representative from Cape Elizabeth just spoke about, the diversion of funds from the tobacco settlement has directly impacted child care, child development programs, anti-tobacco programming, significant decreases in low-cost prescription drugs and decreases in substance use prevention. And given what we know about the behavioral health crises today in Maine, this fund must be protected and it must be used to prevent disease as it was intended for. And I want to note that this not only saves lives but prevention makes the most financial sense. According to the Healthy Trust for Americans Analysis, for every \$1 invested in disease prevention, we see \$7.50 in economic output and \$5.65 in health care savings. This is incredible. What this really means, Mr. Speaker, is that when we prevent disease, we don't spend five times that amount on treating disease. Prevention saves lives and money, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Berwick, Representative O'Connor.

Representative **O'CONNOR**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. It's really hard for me to stand up and say I rise in support of this bill, but I do. About a thousand years ago when I served in the 125th Legislature, I think that's how long ago it was, I noticed that continuously the Fund for Healthy Maine was raided. It was raided for everything. And in the years past, MaineCare was about 5% of that fund. Now, I believe that about 65% of that fund is being used to fund MaineCare. That should be a General Fund expenditure. I know it's going to be difficult, but I do believe that this fund needs changes. I have been told and seen that the constitutional changes have been addressed, so, as difficult as it is to rise in support of this against my Members of this Body, I just think that it's time for a change with this and we need to bring this back to smoking cessation and what it was actually meant to be used for. In fact, there were rules and regulations that were what it was to be used for but they haven't been followed and, frankly, it should stop being a slush fund when somebody decides hey, let's just take it from the Fund for Healthy Maine. So, I thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Calais, Representative Perry.

Representative **PERRY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to do a little history. I was here when we actually brought the law up that said what the fund could be used for. And during that period of time, when there were MaineCare funds that were done, it was for a specific program, whether it was for maternal health or some other thing that that was within the MaineCare program. And as a committee we got a report on each one of those programs that money covered so, we knew it was being used for preventive health. But during

the time to now, \$5 million have been taken out of the tobacco fund for tobacco cessation. That is one of the main reasons this fund was set up and it was done to balance a budget. This fund, yes, is decreasing in amount. We know that and thank God that says something about our success with smoking cessation. However, we haven't had the funds to do this, smoking is becoming more of a problem, not less. We used to have a grade A, we are now down to a C in terms of what we're doing with smoking. We need this fund for prevention. I would rather treat prevention than lung cancer. I would rather treat prevention than having a child in child welfare. I would rather treat prevention than the hospital costs that my insurance will have to pay for because nobody else can. I think that we should ensure that this fund is used in prevention while we have it.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 545

YEA - Alley, Arford, Austin, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cloutier, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Faulkingham, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Kessler, LaRochelle, Madigan, Martin, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, Moriarty, Newman, O'Connell, O'Connor, O'Neil, Osher, Pebworth, Perry, Pluecker, Prescott, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sampson, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Terry, Tucker, Wadsworth, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Arata, Babbidge, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebara, Collamore, Connor, Corey, Dillingham, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Foster, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Hepler, Hutchins, Hymanson, Javner, Kinney, Landry, Libby, Lyman, Martin J, Martin T, Mason, Millett, Morris, Nadeau, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Theriault, Thorne, Tuell, Underwood, White.

ABSENT - Andrews, Bernard, Brooks, Cardone, Costain, Dolloff, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Lemelin, Lookner, Lyford, McDonald, Paulhus, Perry, Pierce, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley, Tepler.

Yes, 75; No, 52; Absent, 20; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

75 having voted in the affirmative and 52 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 20 being absent, and accordingly the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-945)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-945)** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

Majority Report of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-965)** on Bill "An Act To Authorize Certain Off-premises Sales of Adult Use Marijuana" (H.P. 1434) (L.D. 1927)

Signed:
Senators:

HICKMAN of Kennebec
FARRIN of Somerset
MIRAMANT of Knox

Representatives:

CAIAZZO of Scarborough
COREY of Windham
KINNEY of Knox
McCREIGHT of Harpswell
RIELLY of Westbrook
SUPICA of Bangor
WOOD of Portland

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:
Representative:

DOLLOFF of Milton Township

READ.

On motion of Representative CAIAZZO of Scarborough, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-965)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-965)** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

**CONSENT CALENDAR
First Day**

In accordance with House Rule 519, the following item appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(H.P. 1350) (L.D. 1817) Bill "An Act To Allow the State's Adult Use Marijuana Tracking System To Track Plants and Products by Group" Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-966)**

Under suspension of the rules, Second Day Consent Calendar notification was given.

There being no objection, the House Paper was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act To Collect Pesticide Sales and Use Records for the Purpose of Providing Information to the Public" (S.P. 731) (L.D. 2021)

Signed:
Senators:

DILL of Penobscot
BLACK of Franklin
MAXMIN of Lincoln

Representatives:

BERNARD of Caribou
GIFFORD of Lincoln
HALL of Wilton
LANDRY of Farmington
McCREA of Fort Fairfield
PLUECKER of Warren
SKOLFIELD of Weld
UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-526)** on same Bill.

Signed:
Representatives:

O'NEIL of Saco
OSHER of Orono

Came from the Senate with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

READ.

On motion of Representative McCREA of Fort Fairfield, the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report was **ACCEPTED** in concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-527)** on Bill "An Act To Create a Logging Dispute Resolution Board and To Require Proof of Ownership Documents To Be Available within 14 Days of Request" (S.P. 568) (L.D. 1724)

Signed:
Senators:

DAUGHTRY of Cumberland
HICKMAN of Kennebec

Representatives:

SYLVESTER of Portland
CUDDY of Winterport
GERE of Kennebunkport
PEBWORTH of Blue Hill
ROEDER of Bangor
WARREN of Scarborough

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:
Senator:

GUERIN of Penobscot

Representatives:

BRADSTREET of Vassalboro
DRINKWATER of Milford
MORRIS of Turner
PRESCOTT of Waterboro

Came from the Senate with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-527)**.

READ.

Representative CUDDY of Winterport moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

Representative BRADSTREET of Vassalboro **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Vassalboro, Representative Bradstreet.

Representative **BRADSTREET**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise in opposition to the pending motion. You know, there are a number of reasons why you can disagree with a bill. You can disagree with a bill with the way that it's put together and how it interacts with other laws and Statutes, but that's not the reason I'm disagreeing with this one. This one, I disagree with the premise that the bill is even needed. None of the affected parties requested the bill and a substantial number of people the bill would ostensibly help testified against the bill. There already exists various avenues through which parties who think they have been wronged can appeal to. For example, the Maine Labor Relations Board, Maine Workers' Compensation Board, Department of Agriculture and Conservation and Forestry and those are just to name a few. So, why should this particular industry have a separate entity to which complaints can be heard? They shouldn't. One of the arguments we did hear in favor of the bill is that it is expensive to go through the current processes legally and that this will save money. Yet if you look at the fiscal note, you will see that if the bill does become law, there's a distinct possibility that more cases will be tried in civil courts, thereby defeating the purpose of the bill to save money. So, how on earth will that save money? It won't. Another thing, according to the Maine Office of the Attorney General, there's ongoing litigation regarding a similar law that was passed in the 130th Legislature, LD 188. Some of the concerns with that law and it concerns the possible exemption of certain federal statutes and regulations. Is it not unwise to pass this legislation until there is a final resolution of LD 188 so we can determine whether LD 1724 is even legally viable? Forestry landowner and loggers have long been able to work out any differences by themselves. They can and want to do that. I just want to remind you that the affected parties did not ask for this bill and they do not want it. We should all vote against this pending motion. It is clearly a solution looking for a problem. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Sylvester.

Representative **SYLVESTER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, it's often something that we say in this building, that

it's a solution or a solution seeking a problem. Except for the fact that in the six years that I've served in this building and the four years I've served as chair of the Labor and Housing Committee, I have heard from hundreds of folks about this problem. And I guess the question is whether or not it's the role of the State to seek a solution. Now, I am not a legislator who likes to create departments whole-cloth. I like to use the resources that we already have within this great State. And one of the resources that we have in this State is the Maine Labor Relations Board and the Arbitration Association and the system that it oversees. This bill uses that mechanism, which is a dispute between two parties, which in this case would be the contractors and the landowners, to ensure that if there is conflict there is a place besides the courts that they can bring that conflict. It is a trusted system, it is a system that is full of precedence about how to do this and it is a system within this bill that allows for one advocate from the contractors, one advocate from the landowners and then an arbitrator who will oversee. This, to me, is the best possible solution. Why? Not only because it exists already within State government but because it can be done with existing resources. And so, Mr. Speaker, I would say to you that the legal precedent for this is the passing of this bill which creates the legal status for these two parties to bring their disputes and have them resolved at the Maine Labor Relations Board. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Milford, Representative Drinkwater.

Representative **DRINKWATER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on March 8th, this bill had its hearing. Twenty-six contractors testified against the Logging Dispute Resolution Board. The Professional Logging Contractors of Maine, with over 200 contract members, testified against this bill. The sponsor of the bill spoke of contractors who have had their contracts with a large landowner breached. No contractors spoke in favor of this bill. Four labor unions spoke in favor of the bill. In testimony, those speaking against the bill spoke of their disapproval of having any unions involved in their business. One contractor, Mr. Madden, took the time to testify against a bill while operating his harvester. That's how important he felt he needed to speak up. If a logging dispute resolution board is created, the three-member panel would be appointed by the Chief Executive. One member will be an employer of labor and one must be an employee or selected from a trade or labor union. The third must represent the public interests of the State and serve as the chair. Mr. Jack McKay of Eastern Maine Labor Council testified that this board is needed because contractors can be blacklisted if they take their dispute to court. Mr. Speaker, if a contractor fears being blacklisted because the landowner may stop doing business with them, then it only stands to reason that the landowner would do the same if the contractor filed a complaint with the board. The sponsor spoke of what it takes to sue a landowner in court. The resolution board will cost \$700 a day and the parties most likely will be represented by counsel. Under this new board, the cost will include board members' per diem and necessary expenses as well as related State allocation program charges, whatever that is. And this cost will be borne by the party against whom the board decides.

So, I ask, Mr. Speaker, where is this new board going to save the contractor money? Mr. Speaker, there already exists a board to hear logging disputes; it's the Maine Agriculture Bargaining Board. This board was created in 1973 so that agricultural businesses, including loggers, can hear and settle disputes. There have been no logging disputes in the past 10 years. In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask this Body to consider four

things. Number one, the logging contractors don't want this board. Not one contractor spoke in favor of it, not one contractor in favor came forward. The contractors don't want to have a union involved in their business. Two, the fear of being blacklisted will not diminish because they file a grievance with a dispute resolution board. Three, the cost of hearing before this dispute board could cost more than going to court because the cost must be borne by the party against whom the board decides. Lastly, the Maine Agriculture Board is already in place to hear these disputes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Sylvester.

Representative SYLVESTER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for rising a second time. One is for a piece that I forgot and one is to address a concern. The first one is that this only involves landowners who have more than 50,000 acres and so, most of the folks who testified, we were listening to them when we made that change so that it would only be for 50,000 and above. There are about 20-some-odd folks in the State who that covers. It's the really big boys. And the other piece would be the point from the Good Representative from Milford. In the original bill, absolutely correct that the side who lost would pay. But the costs under the Maine Labor Relations Board will be borne on existing resources from the Maine Labor Relations Board and so, there is no fiscal note and there will be no cost to the folks who come in. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 546

YEA - Alley, Arford, Babbidge, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Bryant, Caiazza, Cloutier, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Faulkingham, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Pebworth, Perry, Pierce, Pluecker, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Terry, Tucker, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Arata, Austin, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Connor, Corey, Dillingham, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Fay, Foster, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Libby, Lyman, Martin, Mason, Millett, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Theriault, Thorne, Tuell, Underwood, Wadsworth, White.

ABSENT - Andrews, Bernard, Brooks, Cardone, Costain, Dolloff, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Lemelin, Lookner, Lyford, McDonald, Paulhus, Perry, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley, Tepfer.

Yes, 74; No, 54; Absent, 19; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

74 having voted in the affirmative and 54 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 19 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (S-527)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-527)** in concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

Six Members of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** report in Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-967)** on Bill "An Act To Update the Comprehensive State Energy Plan To Achieve the State Energy Vision"

(H.P. 1497) (L.D. 2015)

Signed:

Senator:

VITELLI of Sagadahoc

Representatives:

BERRY of Bowdoinham
GROHOSKI of Ellsworth
KESSLER of South Portland
SACHS of Freeport
ZEIGLER of Montville

Six Members of the same Committee report in Report "B" **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Senators:

LAWRENCE of York
STEWART of Aroostook

Representatives:

CARLOW of Buxton
FOSTER of Dexter
GRIGNON of Athens
WADSWORTH of Hiram

READ.

Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham moved that the House **ACCEPT** Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended**.

Representative WADSWORTH of Hiram **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended**.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Hiram, Representative Wadsworth.

Representative **WADSWORTH**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, this is a housekeeping bill that the committee just didn't get the proper time to work. We rushed through it on our final last day of work in committee. Not one person testified in favor of this bill. This bill would be better served if we brought it back in the long session of the 131st and give it its proper time that it needs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bowdoinham, Representative Berry.

Representative **BERRY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House, the current energy plan which we have not received sufficiently and on time from the past couple of administrations has some very, very old and outdated language in it pertaining to things like the February 2008 final report or the Chief Executive's taskforce on wind

power development, tangible benefits and community benefits from specific wind projects. You know, there's just a lot of cobwebs in this section of the Statute and the proposed language for our future energy plans, which I think we can all agree we need, are pretty straightforward. We want to make sure that energy in the State is cost effective, is generative of jobs, reduces emissions, is equitable, is reliable, is secure and is done with the regional nature of our energy systems in mind. That's really all that this amended language would call for. I fail to see why it's controversial and I hope that we can support the pending motion. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Dexter, Representative Foster.

Representative FOSTER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I just rise simply to State that this is a fairly complex bill. I've argued in committee time and time again that the State does not have a detailed plan for what we hope to accomplish in the next several years in changing over to electrification of all of our home heating, transportation and so on. However, we currently are spending State taxpayer monies, ratepayer monies, for PUC to work on a plan along with the monies that are being spent for the Chief Executive's energy office to do so. This bill came for a hearing, it was on March 16th and on March 17th, the vote was held with the work session. As was previously stated, there was not much testimony either for or against and I would suggest that this bill should be voted down and that anything further should come out of the next Legislature. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of Report "A" Ought to Pass as Amended. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 547

YEA - Arford, Babbidge, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Bryant, Cloutier, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Pebworth, Perry, Pierce, Pluecker, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Terry, Tucker, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Alley, Arata, Austin, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Caiazzo, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Connor, Corey, Dillingham, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Faulkingham, Foster, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Libby, Lyman, Mason, Millett, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stetkis, Theriault, Thorne, Tuell, Underwood, Wadsworth, White.

ABSENT - Andrews, Bernard, Brooks, Cardone, Costain, Dolloff, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Lemelin, Lookner, Lyford, Martin, McDonald, Ordway, Paulhus, Perry, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley, Stearns, Tepler.

Yes, 72; No, 53; Absent, 22; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

72 having voted in the affirmative and 53 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 22 being absent, and accordingly Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended** was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-967)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-967)** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

**CONSENT CALENDAR
First Day**

In accordance with House Rule 519, the following items appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(H.P. 129) (L.D. 176) Bill "An Act To Facilitate a Grade 9 to 16 School Project" Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-969)**

(H.P. 1377) (L.D. 1867) Bill "An Act To Codify MaineCare Rate System Reform" Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-968)**

Under suspension of the rules, Second Day Consent Calendar notification was given.

There being no objection, the House Papers were **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEE
Divided Reports**

Majority Report of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-972)** on Bill "An Act To Provide Textbook Cost Assistance for High School Students Enrolled in Early College Courses"

(H.P. 1390) (L.D. 1880)

Signed:

Senators:

RAFFERTY of York
DAUGHTRY of Cumberland
WOODSOME of York

Representatives:

BRENNAN of Portland
CROCKETT of Portland
DODGE of Belfast
McCREA of Fort Fairfield
MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth
ROCHE of Wells
SALISBURY of Westbrook
STEARNS of Guilford

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:
Representatives:
LYMAN of Livermore Falls
SAMPSON of Alfred

READ.

On motion of Representative BRENNAN of Portland, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED.**

The Bill was **READ ONCE. Committee Amendment "A" (H-972)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED.**

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading.**

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-972)** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-970)** on Bill "An Act To Ensure the Continuation of Services to Maine Children and Families through the Alternative Response Program" (H.P. 1371) (L.D. 1850)

Signed:
Senators:
CLAXTON of Androscoggin
BALDACCI of Penobscot
MOORE of Washington

Representatives:
MEYER of Eliot
CRAVEN of Lewiston
MADIGAN of Waterville
PERRY of Calais
STOVER of Boothbay
ZAGER of Portland

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:
Representatives:
CONNOR of Lewiston
GRIFFIN of Levant
JAVNER of Chester
LEMELIN of Chelsea

READ.

On motion of Representative MEYER of Eliot, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED.**

The Bill was **READ ONCE. Committee Amendment "A" (H-970)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED.**

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading.**

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-970)** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-971)** on Bill "An Act Concerning Equity in Renewable Energy Projects and Workforce Development"

(H.P. 1464) (L.D. 1969)

Signed:
Senators:
DAUGHTRY of Cumberland
HICKMAN of Kennebec

Representatives:
SYLVESTER of Portland
CUDDY of Winterport
GERE of Kennebunkport
PEBWORTH of Blue Hill
ROEDER of Bangor
WARREN of Scarborough

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:
Senator:
GUERIN of Penobscot

Representatives:
BRADSTREET of Vassalboro
DRINKWATER of Milford
MORRIS of Turner

READ.

Representative SYLVESTER of Portland moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

Representative BRADSTREET of Vassalboro **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The **SPEAKER:** The Chair recognizes the Representative from Vassalboro, Representative Bradstreet.

Representative **BRADSTREET:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise in opposition to the pending motion. In this market, construction workers are already receiving more than competitive wages and we can all agree that's a good thing. But we need to look into the particulars of LD 1969. One of the bigger issues I have with this proposal is that the construction of certain renewable energy products that receive State assistance can only be awarded to contractors that will pay at least prevailing wages and benefits. That sounds good but that alone can drive up project costs significantly, good for a few workers but bad for Maine taxpayer. The bill also requires that the PUC must consider in determining benefits to the State's economy whether the contractor has secured a project labor agreement with the labor organization to supply construction workers. This sets the stage for excluding approximately 90% of Maine's construction workers who choose not to belong to a union. So, we'll be essentially awarding contracts to a small group of people. It also directs the PUC in conducting solicitation and selecting certain contracts to consider whether an entity is employee owned, which may include those offering employee stock ownership plans. We should ask what is the purpose of that if it's not intended to once more give favorable treatment to one type of business at the expense of all others. This is a

severe disservice to the people who pay the bills; the taxpayers of Maine. One of the unmentioned detriments of this bill is that its enactment will so drive up the cost of renewable energy projects in our State that we will be able to complete fewer such projects, thereby prolonging our dependence on fossil fuels. I thought we were all opposed to that. Fewer renewable energy projects will also have an unfortunate ripple effect throughout our economy. Fewer projects mean fewer subcontractors being employed and fewer workers receiving paychecks, bad for laborers. This bill clearly picks winners and losers instead of providing equal opportunity and fairness for all. It is bad public policy and we should all oppose it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On motion of Representative DUNPHY of Old Town, **TABLED** pending the motion of Representative SYLVESTER of Portland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report and later today assigned. (Roll Call Ordered)

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

Majority Report of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-977)** on Bill "An Act To Reclassify Certain Offenses under the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws and Motor Vehicle Laws and Increase the Efficiency of the Criminal Justice System"

(H.P. 1193) (L.D. 1604)

Signed:
Senator:

DESCHAMBAULT of York

Representatives:

WARREN of Hallowell
LOOKNER of Portland
MORALES of South Portland
PLUECKER of Warren
RECKITT of South Portland
SHARPE of Durham

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-978)** on same Bill.

Signed:
Senator:

CYRWAY of Kennebec

Representatives:

COSTAIN of Plymouth
NEWMAN of Belgrade
PICKETT of Dixfield
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

READ.

On motion of Representative WARREN of Hallowell, **TABLED** pending **ACCEPTANCE** of either Report and later today assigned.

Majority Report of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-983)** on Bill "An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Secretary of State Regarding Notarial Acts"

(H.P. 1503) (L.D. 2023)

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland
SANBORN of Cumberland

Representatives:

HARNETT of Gardiner
BABBIDGE of Kennebunk
EVANGELOS of Friendship
MORIARTY of Cumberland
RECKITT of South Portland
SHEEHAN of Biddeford
THORNE of Carmel

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representatives:

HAGGAN of Hampden
LIBBY of Auburn
POIRIER of Skowhegan

Representative NEWELL of the Passamaquoddy Tribe - of the House - supports the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-983)** Report.

READ.

Representative HARNETT of Gardiner moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

Representative LIBBY of Auburn **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Auburn, Representative Libby.

Representative **LIBBY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I appreciate the diligence, hard work and strong support that our current Secretary of State has put into this bill; the Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts, or RULONA. As one testimony states, LD 2023 clarifies the law regarding notaries public their responsibilities and duties and provides a framework for performing notarial acts with respect to electronic records. It creates permanent law governing remote notarization, a concept that has grown in popularity during the pandemic. The problem with RULONA for me is that I don't believe that one size fits all; not in a shirt, not in education and not in notarial acts. Maine has unique needs and our laws should reflect that. The other and perhaps more pressing issue that RULONA presents is that of the potential to influence our elections in the future. The current bill as written does not allow for remote notarization of election-related materials such as absentee ballot requests, but that could be a simple legislative change in the future. That potential slippery slope could result in one central notary rubberstamping ballot request forms from all over our State, enabling ballot-harvesting schemes. That is a future I would like to avoid and I ask you to follow my light.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Gardiner, Representative Harnett.

Representative HARNETT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise in support of the motion to accept the Majority Report. By way of background, at the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, the Chief Executive issued Executive Order No. 37 allowing remote notarization. During the course of the pandemic, that proved to be very beneficial to people seeking to have notarization take place in rural communities and, even more importantly, for people who are homebound because they're elderly or have disabilities. Last year, in the first year of the 130th, LD 1399 was introduced to extend that ability to conduct remote notarization and it has worked well. That was signed into law as Public Law Chapter 337 and as part of that law the Secretary of State was directed within her existing budget to bring together as diverse a group of stakeholders as possible to discuss the implementation of remote notarization. And the Secretary of State did that. She conducted eight meetings between August of 2021 and February of 2022, and issued her report with recommended legislation to the Judiciary Committee. I want to tell you the people that were the entities involved in producing that report so you can understand the breadth of the stakeholder group. It included the Maine Registers of Deeds Association, the Maine Bankers Association, Legal Services for the Elderly, Maine Probate and Trust Law Advisory Commission, Maine State Bar Association, the Uniform Law Commission, the Maine Association of Realtors, the Maine Association of Mortgage Professionals, the Maine Credit Union League, Informed Notaries of Maine, the Maine Real Estate and Development Association, the American Bar Association, Disability Rights Maine and the Department of the Secretary of State. An incredibly diverse group of stakeholders unanimously supported the legislation that is in front of you. This legislation codifies the ability of notaries to conduct remote notarization, that being when the person whose signature is being notarized is not in the same place. It has worked. This law is based on a model that exists in 18 states, where it has also worked and been effective and, again, really helps those who are homebound. The Good Representative from Auburn mentioned a concern that future legislators might extend remote notarization to election matters. I can only speak to the bill that's in front of us and the bill that is in front of us, LD 2023, does not do that and, instead, specifically excludes all notarizations that are related to elections, voting, citizen's petitions and referenda. I ask you to support the motion Ought to Pass. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Camden, Representative Doudera.

Representative DOUDERA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Good Representative from Gardiner has said, last year LD 1399 was submitted as a starting point for discussions to finally adopt remote online notarization in Maine. And I submitted that bill after seeing what my constituents were going through as COVID-19 infiltrated our lives. There were elderly couples who couldn't update their wills, this was a really traumatic situation for them, bank and real estate transactions that could not take place. And I contacted the Maine Association of Realtors, we worked diligently to figure out what would be the best option for our State, the Judiciary Committee worked very hard since then to pass the bill and of course the incredible efforts of the Secretary of State's office and the stakeholders since then. So, even without something as extreme as a pandemic, our State is well-served by modernizing the ancient practice of notarization by moving toward what this bill

presents; remote online notarization. It's already allowed, as we have heard, in many, many states and many industries and professionals in Maine really need this as a tool. So, for all these reasons, I urge you to follow my light and vote in favor of the pending motion. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 548

YEA - Alley, Arata, Arford, Babbidge, Bell, Berry, Bickford, Blier, Blume, Boyle, Bradstreet, Brennan, Bryant, Caiazzo, Carlow, Cloutier, Collamore, Collings, Connor, Copeland, Corey, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Dillingham, Dodge, Doudera, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Faulkingham, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Hall, Harnett, Harrington, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Martin T, Mason, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, Moriarty, Morris, Nadeau, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Pebworth, Perry, Pickett, Pierce, Pluecker, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roche, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stearns, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Terry, Thorne, Tucker, Tuell, Underwood, Wadsworth, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Austin, Carmichael, Cebra, Foster, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Hanley, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Libby, Lyman, Millett, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stetkis, Theriault, White.

ABSENT - Andrews, Bernard, Brooks, Cardone, Costain, Dolloff, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Lemelin, Lookner, Lyford, McDonald, Paulhus, Perry, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley, Tepler.

Yes, 100; No, 28; Absent, 19; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

100 having voted in the affirmative and 28 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 19 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-983)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-983)** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

ENACTORS

Acts

An Act To Transition State and Local Motor Vehicle Fleets to Plug-in Hybrid Vehicles and Zero-emission Vehicles

(S.P. 456) (L.D. 1579)

(C. "A" S-484)

An Act To Establish a Fund for Farmers Adversely Affected by Drought Conditions

(S.P. 717) (L.D. 1998)

(C. "A" S-504)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

An Act To Protect the Health and Welfare of Maine Communities and Reduce Harmful Solid Waste

(S.P. 523) (L.D. 1639)
(S. "B" S-525 to C. "A" S-494)

Was reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed.

On motion of Representative TUCKER of Brunswick, was **SET ASIDE**.

The same Representative **REQUESTED** a roll call on **PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED**.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The **SPEAKER**: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Passage to be Enacted. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 549

YEA - Alley, Arata, Arford, Babbidge, Bell, Berry, Blier, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Bryant, Caiazzo, Carlow, Carmichael, Cloutier, Collamore, Collings, Connor, Copeland, Corey, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Dillingham, Dodge, Doudera, Downes, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Faulkingham, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Griffin, Grohoski, Hall, Hanley, Harnett, Harrington, Hasenus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Kinney, Landry, LaRochelle, Lyman, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett H, Millett R, Morales, Moriarty, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Parry, Peabworth, Perkins, Perry, Pierce, Pluecker, Poirier, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roche, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stearns, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Madam Speaker, Terry, Theriault, Thorne, Tucker, Wadsworth, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Austin, Bickford, Bradstreet, Cebra, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Foster, Gifford, Greenwood, Hutchins, Javner, Libby, Martin, Mason, O'Connor, Ordway, Prescott, Quint, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stetkis, Tuell, Underwood, White.

ABSENT - Andrews, Bernard, Brooks, Cardone, Costain, Dolloff, Grignon, Haggan, Head, Lemelin, Lookner, Lyford, McDonald, Paulhus, Perry, Pickett, Roberts, Sharpe, Stanley, Tepler.

Yes, 102; No, 25; Absent, 20; Vacant, 4; Excused, 0.

102 having voted in the affirmative and 25 voted in the negative, 4 vacancies with 20 being absent, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act To Create the Maine Generation Authority"

(H.P. 1218) (L.D. 1634)

Signed:

Senators:

LAWRENCE of York
STEWART of Aroostook
VITELLI of Sagadahoc

Representatives:

CARLOW of Buxton
FOSTER of Dexter
GRIGNON of Athens
WADSWORTH of Hiram

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-982)** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representatives:

BERRY of Bowdoinham
CUDDY of Winterport
GROHOSKI of Ellsworth
KESSLER of South Portland
SACHS of Freeport
ZEIGLER of Montville

READ.

On motion of Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham, **TABLED** pending **ACCEPTANCE** of either Report and later today assigned.

Majority Report of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-980)** on Bill "An Act To Promote Equity and Increase Opportunities in the Cannabis Industry by Removing Restrictions Related to Convictions for Drug Offenses and To Replace the Term 'Marijuana' with the Term 'Cannabis' in the Maine Revised Statutes"

(H.P. 1457) (L.D. 1957)

Signed:

Senators:

HICKMAN of Kennebec
MIRAMANT of Knox

Representatives:

CAIAZZO of Scarborough
COREY of Windham
McCREIGHT of Harpswell
RIELLY of Westbrook
SUPICA of Bangor
WOOD of Portland

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Senator:

FARRIN of Somerset

READ.

On motion of Representative CAIAZZO of Scarborough, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-980)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-980)** and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act To Allow the Assessor of the Cyr Plantation Board of Assessors To Facilitate the Election of Vacant Assessor Seats" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 747) (L.D. 2037)

Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested and ordered printed.

Came from the Senate, under suspension of the rules and **WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a Committee, the Bill **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Under suspension of the rules and **Without Reference** to a Committee, the Bill was **Read Twice** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** in concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

ENACTORS

Emergency Measure

An Act To Establish Municipal Cost Components for Unorganized Territory Services To Be Rendered in Fiscal Year 2022-23

(H.P. 1473) (L.D. 1987)

(C. "A" H-941)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 105 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Acts

An Act To Establish the Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Testing Reimbursement Fund for the Purpose of Testing Residential Property Wells

(H.P. 339) (L.D. 463)

(C. "A" H-954)

An Act To Prohibit Excessive Telephone Charges in Maine Jails and Prisons

(H.P. 853) (L.D. 1175)

(C. "A" H-936)

An Act To Establish Fair Housing Goals in Certain Communities in Maine

(H.P. 1244) (L.D. 1673)

(C. "A" H-939)

An Act To Establish a Progressive Treatment Program Liaison

(H.P. 1479) (L.D. 1993)

(C. "A" H-946)

An Act To Make Changes to the Laws Regarding Licensure of Certain Individuals from Other Jurisdictions

(H.P. 1517) (L.D. 2035)

(H. "B" H-953 to C. "A" H-938)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Resolves

Resolve, Directing Maine Revenue Services To Review and Report Regarding Worldwide Combined Reporting of Certain Corporations for Income Tax Purposes

(H.P. 308) (L.D. 428)

(C. "A" H-943)

Resolve, Regarding Monitoring of and Reporting on Energy Use Data Standards and Online Energy Data Platforms

(H.P. 1499) (L.D. 2017)

(C. "A" H-942)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed, **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

On motion of Representative ALLEY of Beals, the House adjourned at 4:43 pm until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 12, 2022; in honor and lasting tribute to Merle A. Beal, of Beals.